



No. 117

June 5, 1992

McDOUGALL FREEZES HAITIAN GOVERNMENT ASSETS IN CANADA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that the Government has passed regulations to freeze the assets in Canada of the Government of Haiti. This is the first time the Government has acted under the authority of the Special Economic Measures Act, which came into force June 4, 1992.

"Canada is committed to making every effort to bring about the return of the constitutionally elected government of Haiti," said Mrs. McDougall. "These measures target the ruling elite, consistent with Organization of American States (OAS) resolutions on Haiti."

The Minister explained that the freeze prohibits any dealings or financial transactions involving property in Canada that is held by, or on behalf of, the Government of Haiti.

However, the regulations do not apply to financial transactions that began before the freeze was imposed and that do not result in a transfer of control of the property or proceeds of such transactions to Haiti. In addition, they do not apply to the bank accounts of the Embassy of Haiti in Ottawa or the Consulate General of Haiti in Montreal.

-30-

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874