



No. 158

July 8, 1991

CANADA HOSTS CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AS A WEAPON OF WAR

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that External Affairs and International Trade Canada and the United Nations will co-sponsor a conference in Ottawa, July 10-12, 1991, preventing the use of the environment as a weapon of war.

"Iraq's deliberate dumping of oil into the Persian Gulf during the Gulf conflict left long-lasting, devastating damage to the environment," said Mrs. McDougall. "This conference is a major step to ensure that the environment is never again used as a weapon of war."

Experts from around the world will review the existing body of international law and discuss ways to improve its effectiveness and implementation.

The conference will be held at the Canadian Government Conference Centre in Ottawa. The media will be invited to cover opening and closing statements.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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