NEWS RELEASE

No. 103

May 19, 1992

CANADA GIVES \$1 MILLION TO OAS DEMOCRACY UNIT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, and the Minister for External Relations and International Development, the Honourable Monique Landry, announced today that Canada will provide \$1 million to the Organization of American States (OAS) Unit for Promotion of Democracy.

"This contribution shows that strengthening democracy is a top priority of Canadian foreign policy," said Mrs. McDougall.

"The Canadian International Development Agency is providing the funds to support efforts of member countries to foster democratic institutions," stressed Mrs. Landry.

The Unit for Promotion of Democracy, a Canadian proposal, was created following a unanimous resolution at the OAS General Assembly in 1990. It provides an effective instrument for regional efforts to consolidate democratic gains in the hemisphere.

- 30 -

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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

or

Communications Branch Canadian International Development Agency (819) 953-6060