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SECRETARY OF STATE STEWART TO VISIT ECUADOR AND COLOMBIA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart will visit Ecuador on June 1 and Colombia on June 2 and 3, 1994.

"Canada values Ecuador and Colombia's partnership in Latin America. I intend to use this opportunity to strengthen further our relationship with these two countries," said Mrs. Stewart.

In Ecuador, Mrs. Stewart will meet with President Sixto Duran Ballen and Foreign Minister Diego Paredes Pena, with whom she will review bilateral relations and regional issues. Mrs. Stewart will also meet with the Minister of Energy and Mines, Dr. Francisco Acosta, and will visit some development projects supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

In Colombia, Mrs. Stewart will meet with President Cesar Gaviria, who has just been elected Secretary General of the OAS, and with whom she will discuss Canada's priorities in the Hemisphere. She will also meet with President Gaviria's special advisor on human rights, Dr. Carlos de Roux. Mrs. Stewart will use the occasion to remind Colombia of the importance Canada attaches to respect for human rights. She will also visit some CIDA development projects and meet with beneficiaries of Canada's assistance.

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