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## McDOUGALL WELCOMES PEACE ACCORD IN EL SALVADOR

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today welcomed the signing of the peace accord ending 12 years of civil war in El Salvador.

"I am extremely pleased that the intensive efforts of the government of El Salvador and leaders of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, with the assistance of UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, were successful in reaching this accord, to put a definitive end to the armed conflict in El Salvador. Canada welcomes the accord and the promise of peace it holds for the people of El Salvador," stated Mrs. McDougall.

The accord, announced early Wednesday in New York, includes provision for a formal ceasefire to begin February 1, 1992. Several technical details still remain to be concluded in negotiations to begin January 5; however, there is agreement that a final peace settlement will be signed on January 16.

"The government and people of El Salvador now face a turning point with great potential for the future. Canada fully expects to participate in international efforts to encourage continued democratic development and the reconstruction of El Salvador," concluded the Minister.

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