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McDOUGALL DEPLORES VIOLENCE IN NAGORNO-KARABAKH

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, said today she deplores the escalating violence in Nagorno-Karabakh, an Armenian enclave in the Republic of Azerbaijan. The Minister expressed regret at the breakdown of the cease-fire and called for a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

"Canada welcomes international efforts to negotiate an end to the bloodshed in Nagorno-Karabakh, including those through the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE)," said Mrs. McDougall. "At the CSCE Council of Foreign Ministers Meeting last month in Prague, I spoke of my concern about the situation. I am pleased to see that the CSCE today is considering a course of action, based on the recommendations of the Rapporteur Mission which we established at that time."

On November 20, 1991, the Minister announced a \$250,000 contribution to the Canadian Red Cross for humanitarian assistance in Nagorno-Karabakh. The funds have been used to purchase desperately needed medicines and medical supplies.

"Canada looks forward to receiving co-operation from the Azeri authorities in ensuring the safe delivery of this assistance to Azeris and Armenians in the region," said Mrs. McDougall.

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