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## McDOUGALL WELCOMES FRENCH SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR TESTS IN SOUTH PACIFIC

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today welcomed the decision of the government of France to suspend its nuclear testing program in the South Pacific until the end of 1992 and possibly longer.

"The decision by France to end its tests in the South Pacific is a significant contribution to efforts to make the world a safer place," said Mrs. McDougall. "We urge other nuclear-weapons states to reconsider their nuclear testing needs. A progressive reduction in the number of tests and their yields would be an important step toward a comprehensive ban on nuclear testing."

The Minister added that the French government decision clearly reflects recent dramatic changes in the global strategic environment, as well as progress in nuclear disarmament. She noted that nuclear non-proliferation is Canada's key security priority today.

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