

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

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SITUATION IN FIJI

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, expressed today the Canadian Government's concern over recent events in Fiji. Mr. Clark noted that Canada deplored attempts to undermine Fiji's constitution and its parliamentary democracy. "The world is all too conscious of the misery and despair for all members of a society which fractures along racial lines", said Mr. Clark. "We hope that all groups in Fiji will seek to shape their nation's future through public discussion and the parliamentary process, rather than through force of arms."

Mr. Clark added that the Canadian Government has not received any information that Canadians resident in or visiting Fiji face any immediate danger, but that steps had been taken to ensure their safety should the situation deteriorate. Mr. Clark urged that those Canadians intending to travel to Fiji should consider deferring their visits. All Canadians currently in Fiji should advise the Canadian Consulate in Suva of their presence in the country.