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CANADIAN FUND TO SUPPORT LONGER TERM DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, announced today the establishment of a \$9 million, three-year South Africa Special Fund to promote long-term partnerships and sustainable development in South Africa. The Minister made the announcement at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe.

"As the apartheid system crumbles, we must increasingly focus our attention on the longer term needs of those South Africans who have suffered from the terrible inequities of apartheid," said Mrs. McDougall. The Minister noted that the Canadian initiative is in keeping with the recommendations of a Commonwealth report on human resource development in post-apartheid South Africa.

The funds will be available to Canadian organizations working in partnership with the Canadian International Development Agency, and will support education and training initiatives -- particularly vocational, literacy and management training -- institutional development, health care, co-operatives and communications.

Canadian assistance for South Africa in 1991/92 will exceed \$15 million and focus on human resource development. In addition to humanitarian and developmental aid for exiles, political prisoners and other victims of apartheid, Canada will continue to encourage the negotiations process by supporting activities which promote contact and discussion among South Africans working towards a non-racial, democratic future.

- 30 -

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