



communiqué

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MRS. MONIQUE LANDRY ANNOUNCES \$55 MILLION
PROJECT FOR GABON

MONTREAL -- International Trade Minister Pat Carney and External Relations Minister Monique Landry today announced that Tecsalt International Limited, of Montreal, will undertake a \$55.36 million water supply and electrification project covering eight rural centres in Gabon.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) will provide a loan for \$35.85 million. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) will provide \$11.95 million and the balance of \$7.56 million will be from the Government of Gabon.

A signing ceremony for the contract and the financing arrangements was attended by Mrs. Landry and a high-level delegation from Gabon including Mr. Jean-Pierre Lembomba-Lepandou, Minister for Finance, Budget and Investment, Mr. Pascal Nze, Minister for Planning and Economy and Mr. Divin Divungi Di Ndinge, Minister for Energy and Water Resources. EDC, CIDA and External Affairs representatives were also attending.

When the project is completed in 1992, eight rural communities will be supplied with treated water and electricity. There will be two mini-hydro power stations and three transmission lines. Under the terms of the contract, Tecsalt will act as project engineer, supervisor and purchasing agent, while construction work will be sub-contracted to other Canadian firms.

Tecsalt, one of the largest engineering-consulting firms in Quebec, has been active in Africa for 25 years. It is presently active in 15 African countries. Cooperation with Gabon began in 1973 and Tecsalt has had a permanent office in Libreville since 1982.

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EDC is a Canadian Crown corporation established to support Canada's export trade. EDC arranges medium- and long-term financing for foreign buyers of Canadian goods and services and also provides insurance and bank guarantee services to Canadian exporters.

CIDA has been providing development assistance to Gabon since 1965 through both bilateral and multilateral funding. Projects have included teacher training, health care, institutional cooperation, and water supply, electrification and transportation in rural areas.

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