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NEW INITIATIVES ANNOUNCED TO STRENGTHEN

CANADA-PHILIPPINES RELATIONS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Minister for External Relations and International Development, the Honourable Monique Landry, today announced major new initiatives between Canada and the Philippines in the areas of development assistance, trade and extradition co-operation.

"These agreements illustrate the breadth of cooperation between our two countries", stated Mr. Clark. "They demonstrate that Canada strongly supports the Aquino Government's efforts to bring genuine social progress to the Philippines and to restore democratic institutions there."

Canada will commit approximately \$125 million to four development projects in the Philippines. Minister Landry said "These long-term arrangements reflect Canada's commitment to strengthen development co-operation with the Philippines, and to stimulate economic growth and regional development.

A \$4.9-million Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) contribution in the area of environmental management will enable Canadian universities and private-sector representatives, under the leadership of Dalhousie University, to provide Philippine universities with important expertise in environmental and resource management.

A second CIDA project will assist the Philippines in purchasing a range of commodities from Canada over the next five years, up to a value of \$50 million. These will include the purchase of paper, vaccines and related equipment to support government programs in education and health as well as the purchase of potash and steel to support selected public sector projects in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

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Secretary of State for External Affairs Secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures



In a third contribution, Canada will provide \$30 million to key Canadian non-governmental agencies and their Philippine partners to develop and implement policies and programs to help the poor.

Finally, the Canadian government will provide \$42.1 million in funding from the Canadian International Development Agency and in export financing from the Export Development Corporation to allow the Philippines to acquire telecommunications equipment and related services and to facilitate Canadian participation in this sector of growing importance to the Philippines.

The Export Development Corporation has also signed a debt rescheduling agreement which will facilitate Filipino economic development efforts.

In the fisheries sector, the two countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen quality control of canned tuna and shrimps from the Philippines to meet Canadian standards and to enable exports of these items to Canada.

Canada and the Philippines also signed an Extradition Treaty to improve assistance and co-operation in criminal matters between the two countries.

Mr. Clark noted "These initiatives will give further impetus to the growing relations between Canada and the Philippines and will expand cooperation in new and mutually beneficial areas. As Pacific nations, Canada and the Philippines must work together to ensure continued prosperity and stability in the Asia Pacific region."

The Filipino Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Raul Manglapus, participated in the above signing ceremonies.