



news release

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PAT CARNEY ANNOUNCES A \$3.85 MILLION CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION FOR STUDIES OF THE THREE GORGES PROJECT

Beijing -- Treasury Board President Pat Carney has signed a \$3.85 million Memorandum of Understanding with China for additional studies of the Three Gorges hydro-electric project on the Yangtze River.

Miss Carney, who is on an official visit to China from June 15 to 22, ratified the Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development.

The funds will be provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and will be used for studies on relocating people, environmental issues, logistics and project management.

The Canadian consortium CIPM-Yangtze Joint Venture (CYJV) will carry out the studies in close collaboration with its Chinese partners, who will undertake a large part of the work. CYJV is made up of Lavalin International, SNC Engineering, Acres International, B.C. Hydro International, and Hydro-Quebec International.

"This agreement is another example of our commitment to reinforce existing links, and forge new links, between the people of Canada and the Developing World," Miss Carney said.

Partnership is one of the themes of Canada's new official development assistance strategy, "Sharing Our Future", which was announced in March by Mrs. Landry.

The Three Gorges project proposes to build a hydro-electric generating station providing up to 15,000 megawatts, making it the largest dam in history. The station will also improve navigation on the Yangtze River, provide flood control and contribute to the development of the Central and East China regions.

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Since 1985, CIDA has provided over \$14 million for pre-feasibility and feasibility studies of the Three Gorges project. These studies were also completed by the CYJV consortium.

Minister Carney, in her role as the Federal Minister responsible for the Asia Pacific Initiative Advisory Committee, is currently leading a delegation of senior officials and businessmen on a tour of Asia that includes calls in Tokyo, Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong. The Asia Pacific Initiative is a Canada/British Columbia program designed to forge new links with Asia Pacific countries in trade, transportation, tourism and culture.