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## MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### TO ATTEND INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT OF ECUADOR

External Relations and International Development Minister, the Honourable Monique Landry, announced today that she will represent Canada at the ceremonies in Quito marking the inauguration of the new President of Ecuador, Rodrigo Borja Cevallos, on August 10.

President-Elect Borja won the elections in Ecuador on May 8, as the candidate of the opposition Democratic Left Party. Minister Landry stated that her attendance at his inauguration, "marks the importance Canada attaches to relations with Ecuador and the democratic process in that country".

The Canadian International Development Agency has recently established a \$4 million scholarship programme in Ecuador which will enable about 100 Ecuadorian students to study in Canada over the next four years. During her visit to Ecuador, Mrs. Landry will also open a new Canadian Consulate in Quito.

En route to Ecuador the Minister will officially re-open the newly paved airport runway at Montego Bay in Jamaica. This project, a major element of CIDA's Caribbean Airports Project, was undertaken by La Société des Constructions DCL, from Montreal, with Canadian funding of \$11.5 million.

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Minister Landry will further stop in Bolivia where Canada has recently announced a new bilateral aid programme. She will meet with President Victor Paz Estenssoro and his Ministers and also visit Canadian-sponsored development projects in the Cochabamba region.

In announcing this visit to Latin American and Caribbean countries, Mrs. Landry said, "the region holds a high priority in Canada's external relations and developmental assistance."