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# news release

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## PRIVATE SECTOR LIAISON GROUP ON KUWAIT RECONSTRUCTION

International Trade Minister John C. Crosbie and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced the members of the Private Sector Liaison Group on Kuwait Reconstruction. The group will hold its inaugural meeting tomorrow, April 16, in Ottawa.

"This group of senior Canadian executives represents the sectors of Canadian business most involved in Kuwait and the Middle East. Above all, these are people active and experienced in the region," Mr. Crosbie said.

"Essentially, I am asking the liaison group to do two things. First, I want their advice on the design and function of the programs we offer to Canadian exporters and potential exporters to Kuwait. Second, I am asking them, as leaders in their respective communities, to share their knowledge and advice with other Canadian business people interested in the region."

Dr. Abdul Hadi al-Awadi, Director of the Kuwait Emergency and Recovery Program, and Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to Canada, Mr. Al-Zuhair, will join the group for informal discussions following the meeting. Mr. Clark will review his experience as head of the first Ministerially-led business mission to Kuwait in March. Together with the members of the liaison group they will review the situation in Kuwait and the ways in which Canadian goods and services can help in the reconstruction effort.

"My department has received more than 6,000 calls from companies and individuals seeking advice on opportunities in the area or asking to be included in our computer data bank. As well, more than 3,200 Canadian business people have attended the seven seminars we have provided across Canada on Kuwait reconstruction. The demand is enormous, and many Canadians will certainly win contracts in the region. However, we continue to stress that this is no bonanza; there

is fierce competition for contracts, and there is no substitute for experience in the region," Mr. Crosbie said.

"Helped by the Private Sector Liaison Group on Kuwait Reconstruction, Mr. Clark and I want to ensure that Canadian products and services are employed to maximum effect in the reconstruction effort."

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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**Private Sector Liaison Group  
on Kuwait Reconstruction**

AGRA Industries Ltd., Mr. H.W. Pearson, Group Vice-President  
Engineering -- Saskatoon

Airport Development Corporation, Mr. Bela Danczkay,  
President -- Toronto

Asea Brown Boveri Inc., Mr. Paul Kefalas, Vice-President and  
General Manager -- Montréal

Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada, Mr. Pierre  
Franche -- Ottawa

ATCO Enterprises Ltd., Mr. Kingsley B. Purdie, Group President  
-- Calgary

Bell Canada Enterprises, Mr. Henri A. Roy, Chairman --  
Montréal

Bombardier/Canadair Challenger, Mr. Brian Moss, President --  
Montréal

CAE Industries Ltd., Mr. D.H. Race, President and Chief  
Executive Officer -- Toronto

Canada Arab Business Council, Mr. Lambert Toupin, Chairman --  
Ottawa

Canadian Construction Association, Mr. R.S.W. Shishakly,  
Chairman of the Construction Exports Committee -- Ottawa

Canadian Exporters Association, Mr. Jim Taylor, Executive  
Director -- Ottawa

Canadian Helicopter Corporation, Mr. Craig Dobbin, Chairman  
and Chief Executive Officer -- St. John's

CANSULT Group, Mr. Jim Metcalfe, President and Chief Executive  
Officer -- Toronto

Lavalin International Ltd., Mr. Marcel Dufour, President --  
Montréal

MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Inc., Mr. John Pitts,  
President -- Vancouver

Matthews Group Limited, Mr. Don Matthews, Chairman and Chief  
Executive Officer -- London

Monenco Limited, Mr. Art Birchenough, President and Chief

Monenco Limited, Mr. Art Birchenough, President and Chief Operating Officer -- Montréal

NOVACORP International Consulting Inc., Mr. D.G. Olafson, President -- Calgary

PCL Industrial Contractors, Mr. A.O. (Les) Beyak, Senior Vice-President -- Edmonton

Royal Bank of Canada, Mr. David Robertson, Senior Vice President, Corporate Banking -- Toronto

SNC International Ltd., Mr. Denis Crevier, President -- Montréal

UMA Group Inc., Mr. Denis Côté, Chief Executive Officer -- Winnipeg