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## CANADA WILL HELP PROTECT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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 that Canada has agreed to respond to requests for assistance for the protection of infrastructure projects in southern Africa. Projects funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and other international donors through the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) have increasingly become susceptible to sabotage.

Requests for security assistance were discussed at last year's Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) and more recently at the meeting Commonwealth Foreign Ministers in Toronto.

"The success of development projects in the SADCC region, particularly in the transportation and energy sectors, depends on the ability of those countries to protect the project sites. Destabilization and insurgency activities continue to be a threat to major development projects, such as the planned rehabilitation of the Limpopo line in Mozambique. We are now ready to join other governments in providing this type of protection", Mr. Clark said.

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Secretary of State  
for  
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État  
aux  
Affaires extérieures

Among the types of assistance envisaged under the program are the following:

- logistical support in the form of clothes, fuel, spare parts and communications equipment;
- food to be provided to personnel involved in project implementation;
- increases in balance of payments support directed to countries experiencing these difficulties.

Regular CIDA monitoring and evaluation procedures will apply to funds used for this initiative.

In addition, increased support could be provided to train more personnel from the Front Line States through an existing military training assistance program currently funded by External Affairs and implemented by the Department of National Defence.

"Southern Africa is and will continue to be one of our priorities", said Mrs. Landry. "Canada will remain a strong supporter of SADCC and its efforts to advance regional cooperation and economic independence".