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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

Potential Recognition of FYROM as Republic of Macedonia A Concern

Canada's largest and oldest Greek heritage grassroots organization expressed concern to Canadian Government about "Republic of Macedonia"

The Canadian Order of AHEPA (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association) today expressed its profound concern in a letter to Canadian Foreign Minister Peter MacKay as to any consideration by the Canadian Government to recognize the Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) by the name of the "Republic of Macedonia".

Frank Antoniou, President of The Canadian Order of AHEPA expressed the position that Canada should stay the course on its position with regards to FYROM. This position is consistent with the United Nation's Security Council Resolution of 1993 whereby FYROM was admitted to the United Nations on the conditions that it does not use the name the "Republic of Macedonia" and that it partakes in UN-sponsored negotiations with Greece regarding use of that name.

In his letter to Minister Mackay, Mr. Antoniou emphasized that the main reason for this continuation in Canada's policy was the continued commitment to the United Nations and that organization's efforts to resolve the dispute between FYROM and Greece in accordance to the 1993 U.N. Resolution.

The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA) is the largest and oldest American-based, Greek heritage grassroots membership organisation. Its scope is international with chapters in the United States, Canada, Greece, and Cyprus, and "sister" chapters in Australia and New Zealand. In Canada it is acting in promotion of the social, economic and political interests of the over 400,000 Canadians of Hellenic heritage.

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