

consular affairs, communications with the public and media, and the Passport Office.

The moves will also strengthen and clarify accountability by tightening the linkage between policy formulation and program delivery.

Transfers of responsibility and accountability are effective April 1. Dates for physical moves are still to be determined.

"Every effort will be made by this Department and the other organizations involved to ensure that this transfer is carried out equitably and with a minimum of disruption for both the people and programs involved," Mr. Morden said in a message to employees.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874