

The Solicitor General has announced in the House of Commons that legislation will be developed as soon as possible to require the reporting of suspicious transactions by financial institutions and intermediaries and the reporting of large cross-border currency movements. Action in these two key areas, combined with the development of arrangements to manage reported information, will substantially enhance Canada's anti-money laundering regime. A public consultation document which describes proposals for implementing such measures was circulated recently. Canada is committed to working with its international partners to address this shared concern.

Trafficking in Persons

Canada takes the issue of illegal migration seriously and is working with countries of origin and transit, airlines, and international institutions to find ways of stopping organized trafficking in human beings. Canada has an acknowledged expertise in detecting fraudulent travel documents and shares its knowledge with other countries. In the G-8, Canada is working to develop norms and standards governing document security. One of the reasons Canada amended the Immigration Act in 1993 was to deny entry to members of organized criminal groups. This legislation has been effective and has led to the refusal of immigration applications where there are reasonable grounds to believe applicants are or were members of organized criminal groups.

Trafficking in Firearms

Canada shares long-standing international concerns about firearms smuggling and has taken a strong position domestically and internationally. Canada views action on smuggling as a way to reduce violence on the streets, as well as to combat drug trafficking and terrorism. In 1997, Canada worked with its partners in the OAS to develop the Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials. Canada signed the convention on Nov. 14, 1997. Canada is also working with partners in the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to win support for further international action in this area.

International Co-operation

In addition to its work with the Lyon Group, Canada is involved in law enforcement projects with other G-8 countries. These include measures to combat pedophile activity, trafficking in stolen vehicles and other international criminal activity. Working groups meet regularly to discuss developments.