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# news release

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## CANADA AND EGYPT SIGN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Honourable Mark Lalonde and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, announced today the signing of an Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. Mr. Lalonde signed the Agreement on behalf of Canada and Mr. Maher Abaza, the Egyptian Minister of Electricity and Energy, who is beginning a week long visit to Canada, signed on behalf of Egypt.

The Agreement allows the initiation of cooperation between the two countries for the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. It envisages cooperation in such areas as the possible supply of CANDU reactors to Egypt, the supply of uranium to be used as fuel, the implementation of joint nuclear research projects and the application of nuclear energy to fields such as agriculture, industry and medicine. The Agreement will also facilitate exchanges of experts, technicians and specialists related to the development of nuclear energy as well as the provision of technical training.

Canada has developed a highly efficient, safe and dependable nuclear fuel cycle. CANDU reactors consistently lead all power reactors in the world in terms of performance. For its part, Egypt is now working on plans to develop a nuclear energy programme for its own industrial, economic and social development. No specific commercial or other projects have at this time been identified by Canada and Egypt but with the signing of this Agreement, both Governments expect that an exploration of possible projects will begin.

.../2