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# news release

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## CANADA LIFTS SANCTIONS AGAINST HAITI

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today welcomed the adoption of Security Council Resolution 944, co-sponsored by Canada, which paves the way for the lifting of all United Nations sanctions against Haiti once President Jean-Bertrand Aristide has returned.

"Canada is pleased to be associated with this resolution, which sets the stage for the return of President Aristide and the resumption of normal international relations. With the return of President Aristide, the task of building a democratic Haiti will begin," said Mr. Ouellet.

The Security Council resolution calls for the lifting of UN sanctions at 00:01 a.m. EST on the day after President Aristide returns to Haiti. Sanctions to be lifted include those on exports and imports, including the sale of petroleum to Haiti. The resolution also lifts the ban on all international development assistance. Furthermore, it calls for the immediate deployment of the advance team for the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH) and urges countries to contribute to the peacekeeping mission. Canadian military and police officers are senior members of the advance team. Canada has already indicated that it will provide 600 soldiers and 100 police officers to UNMIH when it is deployed.

Mr. Ouellet added that at the request of President Aristide, Canada has effectively lifted its ban on commercial air service and on international financial transactions. Assets of members of the de facto regime will remain frozen. These sanctions were imposed at the recommendation of the Organization of American States (OAS) at its ad hoc foreign ministers meeting in June. Canada is now working with the OAS to adopt a resolution formally lifting its sanctions.

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