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# News Release

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## APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSOCIATE CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Transport Minister Douglas Young today announced the appointment of Ferry de Kerckhove as Associate Chief Air Negotiator for Canada.

Mr. de Kerckhove is a career diplomat. He has returned to Canada to assume his new duties from Moscow, where he was Minister at the Canadian Embassy to the Russian Federation.

As Associate Chief Air Negotiator, Mr. de Kerckhove will be working closely with the Chief Air Negotiator for Canada, Mr. Duane D. Van Beselaere. They are responsible for the conduct of negotiations to provide for air services between Canada and foreign countries. These negotiations are important to Canada's air carriers, airport communities, tourists and business travellers, investors and shippers.

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A short biographical note on Mr. de Kerckhove is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
(613) 995-1874

Brian Carr  
Transport Canada  
(613) 993-1718



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