



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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SIGNATURE OF INTERIM CANADA-DENMARK
MARINE POLLUTION CONTINGENCY PLAN, 1977

The Department of External Affairs and the Department of Transport announced jointly the signing of an Interim Canada-Denmark Marine Pollution Contingency Plan applicable to the waters of the Labrador Sea, Davis Strait, Baffin Bay and Nares Strait which separate Canada and Greenland. The Plan, an inter-agency arrangement between the Canadian Coast Guard and the Danish Ministry for Greenland, is aimed at providing a coordinated response to oil pollution resulting from offshore drilling accidents and provides a framework for cooperative efforts between the respective agencies in this regard. Under the Plan, each side is obliged to allow observers of the other to monitor clean-up operations in its own waters and in the event of potential or actual transfrontier pollution, representatives of the two agencies are to ensure as close cooperation as possible between both sides for purposes of coordinating clean-up plans.

The Plan is an interim arrangement only, pending further discussion between the Governments on the question of responsibility for funding clean-up costs where an incident in the waters of one state causes damage in the waters of the other.