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CANADA AND UNITED STATES SIGN REVISED GREAT LAKES WATER QUALITY AGREEMENT

Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson and United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance today signed a revised agreement between Canada and the U.S. on water quality of the Great Lakes.

The new Canada/U.S. Agreement reaffirms the determination of both countries to restore and enhance Great Lakes water quality. It was signed by Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Vance in a brief ceremony at the Lester B. Pearson Building, headquarters of the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa.

The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, 1978, brings up to date the provisions contained in the original Agreement signed in Ottawa in April 1972. That Agreement has resulted in much progress towards improvement of Great Lakes water quality. Under its terms, a review was to be undertaken within five years to see how effectively it was working and where improvements could be made.

The review was carried out by Canadian and U.S. negotiators, with the advice and recommendations of the International Joint Commission, and with the involvement of the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, the eight Great Lakes States, and the public in both countries.

The new Agreement strengthens the 1972 Agreement by calling for various additional programmes and measures to meet problems in Great Lakes pollution which were not evident or fully understood at that time. It includes:



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