

**AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**  
**AND**  
**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC**  
**REGARDING**  
**COOPERATION ON CONSULAR MATTERS OF**  
**A HUMANITARIAN NATURE**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC**

**DESIRING** to promote cooperation between their two States;

**TAKING** into consideration the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, signed in New York in 1989, and in particular the provisions of Article 11 according to which the States Parties, including Canada and the Lebanese Republic, shall take the necessary measures to combat the illicit transfer and non-return of children abroad, and to this end, promote the conclusion of bilateral or multilateral agreements in this respect;

**TAKING** into consideration the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, signed in Vienna in 1963, to which Canada and the Lebanese Republic are States Parties, and in particular the provisions of Article 5 (e) and (h), according to which consular functions consist, inter alia, in helping and assisting nationals of the sending State and in safeguarding, within the limits imposed by the laws and regulations of the receiving State, the interests of children who are nationals of the sending State;

**RECOGNIZING** that questions pertaining to personal status matters, including questions of child custody, can often represent human tragedies and present a particular challenge to bilateral efforts for a just and humane solution;

**RESPECTING** the laws, decisions of the courts and applicable rules in each State;

**DESIRING** to promote and enhance consular cooperation between their two States to deal with these issues;

**HAVE AGREED** as follows:

**ARTICLE 1**

A Joint Consultative Commission shall be established comprising officials of the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the Lebanese Republic and officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police for Canada.

*Handwritten signature and initials*