



# communiqué

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## SIGNING OF THE CANADA/DENMARK ENVIRONMENT COOPERATION AGREEMENT

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, and the Honourable Uffe Ellemann-Jensen, Foreign Minister of Denmark, announced today the signature in Copenhagen of an Agreement Between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark for Cooperation Relating to the Marine Environment, commonly referred to as the Marine Environment Cooperation Agreement. Signing on behalf of Canada was the Honourable John C. Munro, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and for Denmark, the Honourable Tom Hoeyem, Minister for Greenland.

Canada and Denmark have already been cooperating for several years in the study of marine environment factors affecting the waters lying between Canada and Greenland. Exploration for oil and gas beneath these waters, and proposals for new development projects in both northern Canada and Greenland prompted the initiation in 1976 of intergovernmental discussion of ecological implications and consideration of cooperative measures to protect the marine environment. An Interim Canada-Denmark Marine Pollution Contingency Plan was signed in 1977, followed by the Canada-Denmark Marine Pollution Contingency Plan of July 11, 1979. The Marine Environment Cooperation Agreement which supersedes these plans was concurred to in principle in June 1982 and has since been approved by the Canadian and Danish Governments and approved by the Greenland Home Rule Government.

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