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EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCES NEW EXPORT CONTROL LISTS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that he is recommending to cabinet measures that will streamline Canada's system of export controls, add South Africa to the Area Control List, and delete the nine Warsaw Pact countries plus Vietnam and North Korea from that list.

The addition of South Africa to the Area Control List (ACL) means that Canada will control the export to South Africa of all high-technology products, including all computers, software, telecommunications equipment, aircraft, helicopters, and four-wheel-drive vehicles. By placing South Africa on the ACL, the Government of Canada is taking action consistent with agreements reached at Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' meetings.

Mr. Clark also announced that all nine Warsaw Pact countries along with Vietnam and North Korea will be removed from the ACL, in order to reduce burdensome constraints on trade with those countries. "The removal of these countries from the Area Control List is designed to facilitate the free flow of trade in non-strategic goods," Mr. Clark said.

Finally, Mr. Clark announced a major revision of Canada's Export Control List (ECL). The ECL is an extensive list of technology and products subject to control under the Export and Import Permits Act, and for which export permits must be obtained prior to export. Changes to the list involve adding those goods which are sensitive for strategic and foreign policy reasons and deleting those which are no longer of concern. The revisions to the list are in keeping with updates to the export control lists of other COCOM member countries (NATO -except for Iceland- plus Japan), and put Canadian exporters on an equal basis with their European and Japanese competitors. There have been no reductions on controls of nuclear and military products.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada