



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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# communiqué

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## IAEA INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS FIELD OFFICE IN TORONTO

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mark MacGuigan, and the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Marc Lalonde, announced today that Canada has reached agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the establishment in Canada this September of an International Safeguards Field Office.

Through its safeguards system the IAEA verifies that nuclear materials are used only for peaceful purposes. The principal objective of Canada in taking this significant initiative has been to assist the Agency in its efforts to improve the cost-effectiveness of its safeguards operations in Canada and thus to enable the Agency to use its limited resources in a more efficient manner throughout the world.

Canada, as one of the first countries to become a State Party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, has always been a strong supporter of the IAEA's safeguards activities and considers the establishment of this field office, the first of its kind in the world, to be a further concrete demonstration of that support.