



# communiqué

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## CANADA AND EC SIGN NEWSPRINT AGREEMENT

The Honourable James Kelleher, Minister for International Trade, announced today that a newsprint agreement was signed with the European Communities (EC) in Brussels. The Agreement requires the EC to bind in GATT a 650,000 tonne duty-free quota for newsprint. It also stipulates that within that quota, and in accordance with GATT Article XIII, 600,000 tonnes will be allocated to Canada.

The Agreement arises out of a meeting held earlier this month in Brussels between Minister Kelleher and Viscount Etienne Davignon, the Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for Industrial Affairs, during which they discussed the terms of access of newsprint, Canada's fourth largest export to the EC.

Canadian authorities are satisfied that the agreement signed today affords Canada's newsprint industry a degree of access to the EC that will enable Canadian exporters to maintain their traditional market share. The Commission of the European Communities will make the appropriate provisions to permit the full and effective use of the quota.

The Agreement was signed on behalf of the Government by Canada's Ambassador to the EC, Jacques Gignac. Mr. Paul Luyten, Deputy Director-General, External Relations, Commission of the EC, signed for the EC.