

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
ON THE NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE
DEFENSE COMMAND**

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, hereinafter referred to as "the Parties,"

RECALLING their longstanding partnership of bi-national cooperation in the defense of North America through participation in the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD);

CONVINCED that such cooperation is a proven and flexible means to pursue shared goals and interests, remains vital to their mutual security, and is compatible with their national interests as the architecture of North American defense and national defense in their respective countries continues to evolve, including the establishment of Canada Command and United States Northern Command;

NOTING that this cooperation is conducted within the framework of the North Atlantic Treaty and is an important element of their contribution to the overall security of the NATO area;

MINDFUL that in the years since the first NORAD Agreement was concluded on 12 May 1958, NORAD, as a distinct command, has evolved to address the continuing changes in the nature of the threats to North America and that it will need to continue to adapt to future shared security interests;

RECOGNIZING that, despite arms reduction agreements, large nuclear arsenals still exist, deliverable by strategic ballistic missile, cruise missile or long-range aircraft capable of striking North America;

RECOGNIZING further that, despite non-proliferation and counter proliferation endeavors, efforts by others to acquire nuclear weapons, other weapons of mass destruction, and their means of delivery pose a major security challenge;