

# News Release

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## CANADA AND MEXICO SIGN NUCLEAR CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT

Minister of Foreign Affairs André Ouellet today announced that Canada and Mexico have signed an Agreement for Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

The Agreement was signed today in Mexico City by Emilio Lozoya Thalmann, Secretary of Energy, Mines and State-Owned Corporations (SEMIP), and by David J. S. Winfield, Canada's Ambassador to Mexico. A related administrative arrangement between the Atomic Energy Control Board of Canada and SEMIP was signed at the same time.

"The Agreement will facilitate nuclear trade and co-operation with a valuable partner and is a demonstration of the strong commitment shared by Canada and Mexico to nuclear non-proliferation," said Mr. Ouellet.

Mr. Ouellet noted that the Agreement represents the culmination of extensive discussions and is another significant advance in bilateral relations. Conclusion of the Agreement was one of the main issues pursued by Prime Minister Chrétien during his visit to Mexico in March 1994.

Canada and Mexico have active nuclear programs. The Agreement will provide the necessary framework for Canadian nuclear exports to Mexico and allow for future co-operation. It ensures that activities are carried out in a manner consistent with Canada's nuclear non-proliferation policy, which requires that activities under the Agreement be for peaceful purposes only. Canada has 18 similar agreements covering full nuclear co-operation with 29 other countries.

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