Repeated Incidents or Other Serious Traffic Offences: If a person enjoying privileges and immunities is involved in a second instance of impaired driving, or is charged with a traffic offence involving death or injury, the Department will request the relevant Mission to waive immunity. If the sending State decides not to waive immunity, the Department will require the person concerned to leave Canada. In some exceptional circumstances, the Department may require the individual to leave Canada even in cases where the sending State agrees to waive immunity.

Conclusion: The Department recognizes that the vast majority of persons enjoying privileges and immunities in Canada comply with their duty to respect local laws. However, the failure of even a small minority of persons to respect Canadian laws can lead to tragic consequences for Canadians and the persons involved. For this reason, the Department is determined to work closely with police forces to implement rigorously the policy on impaired driving. In this regard, the police will be informed in writing of any action taken by the Department pursuant to a report received by the Office of Protocol related to impaired driving or other serious traffic offences. The Department requests that Missions review the revised policy with their personnel across Canada to ensure that the policy is clearly understood. The Department wishes to inform Heads of Missions that their co-operation in ensuring that this policy is fully respected is both appreciated and expected. The Department will consider transgressions of this policy by persons accredited to Canada, including failures to respect undertakings made pursuant to this policy, as the responsibility of the Head of Mission. The Office of Protocol would be pleased to provide any further clarification of this policy.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Their Excellencies the Heads of Missions accredited to Canada and to the international organizations established in Canada the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ottawa, March 14, 2001