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## CANADA LIFTS TRADE, INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty announced today that Canada is lifting its trade, investment and financial sanctions against South Africa.

"As Chairman of the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa, I have consulted the Commonwealth Secretary-General and other members of the Committee, and we agree that the conditions for lifting the remaining Commonwealth sanctions have now been met," Mr. Beatty said. "The lifting of sanctions marks a very important turning point in the Commonwealth's steadfast opposition to apartheid, one which is cause for celebration. We can now look forward to a new era in our relations with South Africa."

The Minister said that the embargo imposed by the United Nations on arms sales and the voluntary oil embargo will be lifted when a democratic government is firmly in place in South Africa, or when the UN decides on another appropriate time.

The lifting of Canada's trade, investment and financial sanctions is in recognition of South Africa's progress away from its apartheid past and toward its full re-entry into the international community. The move will allow Canadian businesses to take advantage of new trade and investment opportunities in South Africa, and South African businesses will be able to market their products in Canada.

Canada has supported the efforts of South Africans to bring an end to the repugnant system of apartheid, Mr. Beatty added, and will continue to support South Africans as they work to rebuild their society.