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CANADA-CSFR AGREEMENTS AND INITIATIVES

ANNOUNCED IN PRAGUE

Prague -- The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today signed two important bilateral agreements in Prague with his colleague Mr. Jiri Dienstbier, Foreign Minister and Deputy Premier of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (CSFR). These are the Foreign Investment Protection Agreement (FIPA) and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Cultural, Academic and Sports Relations.

FIPA covers both Canadian investment in the CSFR and Czech and Slovak investment in Canada. It will provide both CSFR and Canadian investors with additional confidence in developing solid, long-term business relations. The MOU on Cultural, Academic and Sports Relations is designed to encourage contacts and exchanges in these three areas and is a significant first step towards a closer and expanded overall cultural relationship between the CSFR and Canada.

The CSFR and Canadian Ministers also had the pleasure of being present for the signing of an MOU between CSFR government authorities and the companies Ekotrans Moravia, a.s., of Prague and SNC International Ltd. of Canada. The MOU sets up a co-operative Task Force to undertake the development, construction and management of the World Trade Centre to be built in Prague.