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AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND THE
EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY (EURATOM) FOR COOPERATION
IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced the signing on June 21 in Brussels of an Agreement between the Government of Canada and the European Atomic Energy Community (EURATOM) for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. This Agreement, which is in the form of an Exchange of Letters, was signed by Mr. Willy de Clercq on behalf of the European Communities and by Ambassador Jacques Gignac on behalf of the Government of Canada.

Canada, which is one of the principal suppliers of uranium to the Community, had concluded an agreement with EURATOM in 1959 on the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. At Canada's initiative the provisions of this agreement, which dealt with, among other things, safeguards was amended and updated by two exchanges of letters in 1978 and in 1981.

It was at the Community's initiative that the two parties negotiated the new exchange of letters which was just signed. The goal of the amendments was to revise and update certain aspects of the old agreement. In particular, important improvements were made in the procedures concerning the retransfers of material of Canadian origin from the Community to third countries. Moreover it was decided that the updated cooperation agreement would remain in effect for a period of 20 years with the possibility of further extensions.