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CANADA AND JAPAN EXCHANGE NOTES BRINGING NUCLEAR PROTOCOL INTO FORCE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, announced that Canada and Japan have exchanged notes in Ottawa today whereby the Protocol Amending the Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of Japan for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy, signed by the two Parties on 22 August 1978, will enter fully into force.

The Canada-Japan Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy dates back to 1959. The Protocol amending this Agreement contains further provisions whereby mutual non-proliferation and safeguards concerns have been fully reflected in the Agreement.

The nuclear relationship between Canada and Japan is long-standing. Japan is one of Canada's major uranium customers. In addition, there have been numerous technical exchanges on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The framework for commercial and technical activities in the nuclear area is the amended bilateral nuclear cooperation agreement which, through the Protocol, came fully into force today. Both Parties look forward to a continuation and expansion of this mutually beneficial nuclear relationship.