

Canada-EU Agreement for Scientific Cooperation

Canada and the European Union have negotiated an *Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology*,¹ the purpose of which is to encourage and facilitate cooperation in areas of common interest leading to economic and social benefits.

The areas of common interest identified in the agreement are:

- agriculture, including fisheries
- medical and health research
- non-nuclear energy
- environment, including earth observation
- forestry
- information technologies
- communication technologies
- telematics for economic and social development
- mineral processing

The benefits of the agreement to European firms and research organizations are to participate in leading edge research and development (R&D) with Canadian counterparts, particularly in areas covered under the *European Commission's Framework Programs* for research, technological development and demonstration activities.

Canadians can bring specialized R&D expertise to areas of interest to European firms and research organizations.

The agreement covers shared use of research facilities, exchange visits by scientific and technical personnel, information exchange and related activities as well as the management, allocation and exercise of intellectual property rights.

The agreement also reaffirms that Europeans will continue to have the same access to Canadian R&D programs as in the past.

A *Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee* will oversee the operation of the agreement and allow for discussion on adding new areas of cooperation.

Canada-EU Economic Cooperation

In addition to the recently concluded *Science and Technology Agreement*, Canada and the European Union maintain a high level of cooperation on economic issues pursuant to the 1976 *Framework Agreement for Economic Cooperation*.

Currently, Canada and the EU are negotiating further agreements on:

- Veterinary Standards
- Customs Cooperation
- Competition Policy
- Education and Training
- The mutual recognition of conformity assessment.

The agreements will comple-

ment ongoing consultation coordinated by the *Canada-EU Joint Committee for Cooperation* in the areas of:

- Minerals and Metals
- Wood and Paper Products
- Environment
- Telecommunications and Information Technology
- Forestry
- Trade and Investment
- Industrial Cooperation

These efforts are reviewed at annual ministerial meetings between Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, and Sir Leon Brittan of the European Commission.

Recent DFAIT Publications

Belgium — Test Market at the Heart of the European Union:

- Plastic Processing Equipment (233EA)
- Packaging Equipment (234EA)
- An Overview of the Belgian Cable Environment (235EA)
- Specialty Food Items (236EA)
- Tourism Opportunities and Belgian Consumer Behavior (237EA)
- The International Trade Mart (238EA)
- Home Care Medical Equipment (239EA)
- Radio Frequency Equipment and Services (240EA)
- Franchising (241EA)
- Furniture and Interior Decorating Articles (242EA)
- Transportation (243EA)
- Business Services (244EA)

— Pulp and Paper (245EA)

A Contact Guide for the Canadian Music Industry:

- Italy (229EA)
- The United Kingdom (230EA)
- Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland (231 EA)
- Canada and the EU: A Sustainable Partnership (221EA)
- Agreement for Scientific Cooperation/Cda-EU (220EB)

Further publications on European Union sectoral and area studies are available, including country guides and country profiles, through the *InfoCentre*, Tel.: 1-800-267-8376 (Ottawa region: 944-4000); FaxLink: (613) 944-4500; Fax: (613) 996-9709.

1. For further information on the S & T Agreement, please see Recent Publications, above.