

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIRECT PROTECTED TELEPHONE LINE
BETWEEN OTTAWA AND MOSCOW**

The Government of Canada and the Government of the Russian Federation;

Seeking to improve the reliability and security of telephone communication between Ottawa and Moscow;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Parties shall establish and bring into operation a direct protected telephone line (hereinafter called "the protected line") between Ottawa and Moscow, intended for high-level communications.

ARTICLE II

For the purpose of the establishment, bringing into operation and subsequent use of the protected line, the Parties shall designate the agencies which will be responsible for arrangements regarding the protected line, its technical maintenance, continuity, reliability and ongoing modernization. These agencies will together:

(a) determine the configuration and technical parameters of the protected line and channels of communication and specific types of equipment and method of encryption to be used;

(b) work out recommendations and rules for operating the protected line;

(c) as necessary, consider and resolve questions relating to the implementation of possible changes in the configuration and working procedures of the protected line.

ARTICLE III

The Parties shall provide for meetings of technical experts to resolve issues relating to the establishment, configuration, operation and modernization of the protected line between Ottawa and Moscow. The place and date of such meetings shall be agreed upon by the designated agencies.

ARTICLE IV

Expenditure on the establishment, technical operation and modernization of the protected line shall be based on the principle that the cost of equipment and sectors of the channels of communication within the territory of each Party shall be paid for respectively by each Party, and that the costs of the parts of channels of communication outside the territory of the Parties shall be shared equally between them. Possible expenses for redesigning the equipment to be used for the protected line between Ottawa and Moscow shall be paid in equal shares. Details are to be determined by the designated agencies of the Parties.