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## BEATTY WELCOMES TRANSITIONAL AGREEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty today welcomed the agreement reached by South Africa's multiparty forum on transitional arrangements toward a fully democratic and non-racial state.

"The agreement is a very positive step and we commend all parties who worked with such dedication to reach this important stage in South Africa. The announcement today that agreement has been reached on the establishment of a Transitional Executive Council is a very welcome sign of progress. Canada along with its Commonwealth partners can be justifiably proud of the leadership role they have played in encouraging the parties to reach this point," Mr. Beatty said.

As Chairman of the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Committee on Southern Africa, Mr. Beatty is consulting closely with his Commonwealth counterparts on next steps, including an early meeting of the Committee, which Canada has chaired since 1987.

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