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## CANADA WELCOMES BREAKTHROUGH AGREEMENT ON HAITI

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty today welcomed the breakthrough agreement to restore democracy in Haiti that was reached yesterday in New York under the aegis of the United Nations and Organization of American States Special Representative for Haiti, Dante Caputo.

"Canada has long been involved in the search for a solution to the crisis in Haiti and in efforts to restore Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to his rightful place as the democratically elected leader of that country," said Mr. Beatty. "This agreement paves the way for the return of President Aristide, the creation of a civilian police force and the rebuilding of the devastated Haitian economy."

"Mr. Caputo deserves credit for his dedication and perseverance in pursuing these negotiations," added Mr. Beatty.

Minister Beatty underlined that the Canadian government expects the military authorities in Haiti to abide by the terms of this agreement, and will follow its implementation closely. Canada will participate in international efforts to support this agreement and discussions in this regard are under way with the United Nations.

- 30 -

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