



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

No: 90
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 20, 1979

CANADIAN DECLARATION UNDER ARTICLE 41 OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Flora MacDonald, announced today that Canada has submitted a Declaration to the United Nations under Article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which reads as follows:

"The Government of Canada declares, under Article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, that it recognizes the competence of the Human Rights Committee referred to in Article 28 of the said Covenant to receive and consider communications submitted by another State Party, provided that such State Party has, not less than twelve months prior to the submission by it of a communication relating to Canada, made a declaration under Article 41 recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications relating to itself."

By doing so, Canada has recognized the competence of the United Nations Human Rights Committee to consider communications about the extent to which the provisions of the Covenant are respected in Canada from governments of other countries that have submitted similar Declarations (Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Norway, New Zealand, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Sweden). Canada also acquires the right to submit communications about these countries. The Declaration was submitted with the agreement of the provincial governments.