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SEVENTH CANADA/FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CONSULTATIONS

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the seventh Canada/Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) Science and Technology Consultative Meeting was held in Ottawa on May 4-5, 1983. Under the aegis of the Canada/Germany Agreement on Scientific and Technological Cooperation which was concluded in 1971, the Consultative Meetings are held every two years, alternating between Bonn and Ottawa. The purpose of the consultations is to review on-going programs and proposals of scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries.

Under the 12-year-old Agreement, there has been science and technology cooperation in areas ranging from marine biology to telecommunications. The cooperation has led to numerous joint projects in the field of marine research and geosciences. In the course of this year's consultations, the deliberations concerned the possibilities for intensifying research and technological cooperation in coal processing, biotechnology, environmental research and development and remote sensing. On this occasion, a Memorandum of Understanding on research cooperation in the field of remote sensing was signed between the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) and FRG's Deutsche Forschungs - und Versuchsanstalt fuer Luft - und Raumfahrt (DFVLR).

Both sides also exchanged views on the problems of transfer of results of research into industrial applications, and how international bilateral science and technology cooperation could benefit the industrial development and commercial interests of the two countries. In the course of the opening sessions, both delegations underlined the importance of closer integration of science and technology with national economic policies, as well as the most cost-effective spending of the limited financial resources available for research and development.