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CANADA TO HOST MEETING OF THE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY CONTROL REGIME (MTCR)

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that Canada will host a meeting of countries participating in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). The meeting will take place in Ottawa at the level of officials from July 18-20.

The MTCR was established in 1987 to address concerns over the proliferation of missile systems capable of delivering nuclear weapons. Its objective is to coordinate the export control policies of the countries involved regarding aspects of missile technology and goods. The Ottawa meeting will examine ways to enhance the implementation of the regime. Such meetings of participating countries are held at regular intervals.

"Canada attaches great importance to the Missile Technology Control Regime as an essential component of our efforts to work for peace and security. It is important we do all that we can to ensure that destabilizing weapons systems do not spring up in new locations at a time when great progress is being made in improving East-West relations," stated Mr Clark.

The Ottawa meeting will be attended by officials from Australia, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Spain as well from the original participating countries of Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

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