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CANADA SUPPORTS STRONGER CONTROLS ON MISSILE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today stated that Canada is supporting efforts to strengthen controls on transfers of missile technology. Canada and the 15 other partners in the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) held talks March 18-20 in Tokyo on ways of strengthening the regime and encouraging more countries to adhere to its provisions.

"The Gulf War showed us the tragic impact of uncontrolled trade in missile technology and weapons of mass destruction," stated Mr. Clark. "The Missile Technology Control Regime is an important forum for addressing these issues, but it would be stronger and more effective if more exporting countries were involved."

Among the results achieved at the meeting in Tokyo were the development of an action plan for increasing participation in the regime and the completion of major revisions to the export lists of missile equipment and technology. Partners agreed to meet again by mid-year to complete these revisions for implementation by December 1, 1991.

Established in 1987, the MTCR established guidelines for controlling exports of missile equipment and technology. The regime has been adopted by Canada and the following 15 nations: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States.

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