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CANADA AND UNITED STATES ISSUE DECLARATION ON COUNTER-TERRORISM

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today that he and the Secretary of State for the United States, the Honourable George P. Shultz, have signed a Joint Declaration on Counter-Terrorism. A copy is attached. The Declaration underlines the broad range of the two countries' counter-terrorism relations and formalizes arrangements for a Bilateral Consultative Group on Counter-Terrorism Cooperation, led by the Department of External Affairs and the Department of State.

In addition to reviewing our joint progress and making appropriate recommendations regarding further counter-terrorism policies and measures, the Group will focus, inter alia, on bolstering our information exchange, enhancing border controls, strengthening crisis management capability and sharing information in the counter-terrorism research and development field. The Bilateral Consultative Group is comprised of representatives of government departments concerned with combatting international terrorism. It will meet in Washington this April and annually thereafter, and more often if required.

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Secretary of State
for
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État
aux
Affaires extérieures

Canada

JOINT DECLARATION
ON
COUNTER-TERRORISM

The Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada and the Secretary of State of the United States of America have decided on behalf of their governments to create a Bilateral Consultative Group on Counter-Terrorism Cooperation, to enhance and extend the already effective cooperation between their two countries in this area. To this end, they will continue to consult and cooperate in all aspects of the counter-terrorism effort in order to achieve the following objectives:

- (1) to prevent terrorism, particularly terrorist attacks originating or occurring within their own territories;
- (2) to assist in the resolution of terrorist attacks in progress; and
- (3) to afford each other the greatest possible mutual assistance, consistent with, inter alia, applicable provisions of the 1985 Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the two countries, to ensure that terrorists are brought to justice.

The Bilateral Consultative Group will be made up of representatives of appropriate departments and agencies, headed by the Department of State and the Department of External Affairs. The Group will identify issues, requirements and priorities relating to bilateral cooperation in order to assist departments and agencies with responsibility for counter-terrorism to develop measures:

- (1) to improve and expand the exchanges of information on the terrorist threat as it affects their two countries, in particular in the areas of border controls and measures for the protection of such services as transportation, communication and energy;
- (2) to plan for the management of transborder terrorist incidents;
- (3) to cooperate on counter-terrorist research and development; and
- (4) to encourage the development of greater multilateral and bilateral cooperation in appropriate international forums.

The Consultative Group will review the progress of the departments and agencies concerned in the furtherance of these objectives, with a view to developing recommendations regarding further cooperative measures.

The Consultative Group will meet on an annual basis and more often if necessary and will keep the two governments apprised of progress made and of emerging requirements and priorities.