



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

# communiqué

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## SIGNATURE OF THE CANADA-FRANCE EXTRADITION AGREEMENT

The Department of External Affairs and the Department of Justice announced today that the Honourable Don Jamieson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Olivier Stirn, Secretary of State to the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, signed an Agreement between Canada and France concerning Extradition. The Honourable Marc Lalonde, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, attended the signing ceremony.

The Agreement will come into force following notification to each other of the completion of the constitutional procedures required. The exchange of notifications bringing the Agreement into force will take place in Paris as soon as possible. The Agreement will replace and supersede the Treaty between Great Britain and France, for the Mutual Surrender of Fugitive Criminals, signed at Paris August 14, 1876 as amended by the Conventions signed at Paris on February 13, 1896 and October 17, 1908.

Generally speaking, the Agreement enumerates offences in respect of which one contracting Party may seek the extradition of a fugitive offender found in the territory of the other and the conditions under which a fugitive can be surrendered. The terms of the Agreement are similar to those which Canada has recently entered into with other countries.

Among the salient provisions of the Agreement are:

- (a) offences relating to the unlawful seizure of aircraft and drug offences are extraditable;
- (b) agreement between two or more persons to commit any of the offences listed in the annex of the Agreement, and in particular drug offences, is extraditable; and

- (c) the stipulation is included that extradition may be refused if it is considered that the request has been made for the purpose of prosecuting or punishing a person because of his race, religion, nationality or political opinion.

The Agreement establishes the determination of Canada and France to co-operate in the field of crime prevention.