



# communiqué

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## CANADA DEPOSITS INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION FOR THE CREATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION AS A SPECIALIZED AGENCY

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The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that Canada has ratified the constitution of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), indicating Canada's approval of the transformation of UNIDO into an independent specialized agency of the United Nations.

The UNIDO constitution, which has been ratified by more than 100 countries, will enter into force as soon as financial arrangements concerning its transformation into a specialized agency are finalized. This is being undertaken by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in consultation with countries that have ratified, accepted, or approved the constitution.

The decision to transform UNIDO into a specialized agency, one of 16 such agencies in the UN system, has been made largely at the request of developing countries to enable UNIDO to more effectively promote and provide appropriate assistance to the development, expansion, and modernization of industries in developing countries, as well as to strengthen global industrial cooperation. Specialized agency status for UNIDO, which is based in Vienna, will permit it to assume full responsibility for staffing, program, and budget decisions, which are currently made by the UN headquarters in New York.

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Canada's ratification of the new UNIDO constitution creating the specialized agency is an indication of this country's strong support for the development activities of the United Nations and of the importance of industrialization to the overall advancement of the developing countries.