
News Release

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APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSOCIATE CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Transport Minister Douglas Young today announced the appointment of Ferry de Kerckhove as Associate Chief Air Negotiator for Canada.

Mr. de Kerckhove is a career diplomat. He has returned to Canada to assume his new duties from Moscow, where he was Minister at the Canadian Embassy to the Russian Federation.

As Associate Chief Air Negotiator, Mr. de Kerckhove will be working closely with the Chief Air Negotiator for Canada, Mr. Duane D. Van Beselaere. They are responsible for the conduct of negotiations to provide for air services between Canada and foreign countries. These negotiations are important to Canada's air carriers, airport communities, tourists and business travellers, investors and shippers.

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A short biographical note on Mr. de Kerckhove is attached.

For further information, media representatives may contact:

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Ferry de Kerckhove (B.Soc.Sc. Honours [Economics], M.A. [Political Science], University of Ottawa) joined the Department of External Affairs in 1973 after having been a military officer and a researcher at the Centre québécois de relations internationales.

Mr. de Kerckhove has held various positions at the Canadian Embassy in Tehran and at the Canadian Delegation to NATO in Brussels. In Ottawa, he has held various positions in the Western European and Eastern European Bureaus and in the Policy Development Bureau. His last position in Ottawa before being assigned to Moscow in 1992 was as a Director in the Economic Policy Bureau, from 1989 to 1991.

In addition to English and French, Mr. de Kerckhove speaks Spanish and Russian.