

**No. 48682**

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## **Multilateral**

**Agreement on international humane trapping standards between the European Community, Canada and the Russian Federation (with procès-verbal of rectification, Brussels, 27 July 2006, and annexes). Brussels, 15 December 1997 and 22 April 1998**

**Entry into force:** *22 June 2008, in accordance with article 17*

**Authentic texts:** *Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish\**

**Registration with the Secretariat of the United Nations:** *Council of the European Union, 10 June 2011*

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## **Multilatéral**

**Accord sur des normes internationales de piégeage sans cruauté entre la Communauté européenne, le Canada et la Fédération de Russie (avec procès-verbal de rectification, Bruxelles, 27 juillet 2006, et annexes). Bruxelles, 15 décembre 1997 et 22 avril 1998**

**Entrée en vigueur :** *22 juin 2008, conformément à l'article 17*

**Textes authentiques :** *danois, néerlandais, anglais, finnois, français, allemand, grec, italien, portugais, russe, espagnol et suédois\**

**Enregistrement auprès du Secrétariat des Nations Unies :** *Conseil de l'Union européenne, 10 juin 2011*

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\* Only the authentic English and French texts are published herein – Seuls les textes authentiques anglais et français sont publiés ici.

[ ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS ]

**AGREEMENT  
ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANE TRAPPING STANDARDS  
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,  
CANADA AND THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA,**

**and**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,**

**parties to this Agreement (the "Parties"),**

**RECALLING** their deep commitment to the development of international humane trapping standards that are based on scientific research as well as empirical and practical evidence;

**REAFFIRMING** that each Party has, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit its own resources pursuant to its own environmental and developmental policies and that each Party is responsible for conserving its biological diversity and for using its biological resources in a sustainable manner;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that the sustainable use of wild animals for human benefit is in keeping with the principles of the World Conservation Strategy, the World Commission on Environment and Development and the UN Conference on Environment and Development;

**NOTING** the commitment, also undertaken by the Member States of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) at its 18th General Assembly in Resolution 18.25, to eliminate as soon as practicable the use of inhumane traps;

**RECOGNIZING** that the process of developing international humane standards for the trapping of mammals undertaken by ISO, the International Organization for Standardization, in 1987, is not yet complete;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** that a primary purpose of any international technological standard is to, inter alia, improve communication and facilitate trade;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the considerable research carried out, in particular in Canada, the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the European Community, towards the evolution of more humane, practical trapping methods;

**UNDERSCORING** the considerable work carried out by the working group on the development of international humane trapping standards that was composed of experts from Canada, the United States of America, the Russian Federation and the European Community;

**APPRECIATING** that, despite the absence of international humane trapping standards, a number of jurisdictions have followed different approaches and introduced legislation to improve trapping methods and the welfare of wild animals; and

**RECOGNIZING that the internal constitutional and institutional rules of each Party determine the primary authority for the implementation of the Humane Trapping Standards within its jurisdiction,**

**AGREE AS FOLLOWS:**

**ARTICLE 1**

**Definitions**

**For the purpose of this Agreement:**

**"Traps" means both killing and restraining mechanical capturing devices, as appropriate.**

**"Trapping Methods" means traps and their setting conditions (e.g. target species, positioning, lure, bait and natural environmental conditions).**

**"Humane Trapping Methods" means the traps certified by competent authorities that are in conformity with the Humane Trapping Standards (the "Standards", found in Annex I to this Agreement) and used in the setting conditions specified by the manufacturers.**