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**Canada
and
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**

Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning audio-visual relations (with protocol). Moscow, 20 November 1989

Entry into force: *20 November 1989 by signature, in accordance with article 12*

Authentic texts: *English, French and Russian*

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**Canada
et
Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques**

Accord entre le Gouvernement du Canada et le Gouvernement de l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques concernant les relations dans le domaine de l'audiovisuel (avec protocole). Moscou, 20 novembre 1989

Entrée en vigueur : *20 novembre 1989 par signature, conformément à l'article 12*

Textes authentiques : *anglais, français et russe*

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
CONCERNING AUDIO-VISUAL RELATIONS**

The Government of Canada and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Considering the importance of developing and strengthening the good relations and broadening understanding between the Canadian and Soviet people in the spirit of friendship and co-operation;

Proceeding from the Canada-USSR General Exchanges Agreement of October 20, 1971;

Convinced that it is desirable to develop these exchanges, particularly in the audio-visual field;

Conscious that such co-operation can contribute to the further expansion of the audio-visual industries of both countries as well as to the development of their cultural and economic exchanges;

Have agreed to develop between Canada and the USSR exchanges in the audio-visual field as follows:

ARTICLE I

The two Parties shall expand and strengthen their co-operation and exchanges in the audio-visual field in accordance with the national legislation and the regulations in force in each country.

AREAS OF CO-OPERATION

ARTICLE 2

The Protocol concerning audio-visual co-production is an integral part of the present Agreement and is annexed to the Agreement.

In the development of the present Agreement, other protocols may be signed which, by mutual consent, shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

It is recognized that the words "audio-visual works" refer to productions, irrespective of length, produced either on film, videotape or any other medium of image and sound reproduction, for exploitation in theatres, on television, videocassette, videodisc or by any other form of distribution.

ARTICLE 3

Each Party shall encourage practical measures aimed at increasing the purchase and distribution of audio-visual works of each country and shall encourage the showing of these works in its territory in order to reach the greatest possible number of viewers.

ARTICLE 4

Each Party shall encourage the participation of Canadian delegations and the screening of Canadian films in international film festivals in the USSR and of Soviet delegations and the screening of Soviet films in international film festivals in Canada.

ARTICLE 5

Each Party shall encourage the organization of premieres and days of Canadian films in the USSR and of premieres and days of Soviet films in Canada.

ARTICLE 6

Each Party shall encourage the exchange of specialists and trainees representing the audio-visual industries as well as the exchange of information in this field.

ARTICLE 7

Each Party shall encourage co-operation between appropriate Canadian and Soviet film institutes and organizations. They may also encourage the establishment of Soviet-Canadian cinematographic joint venture companies.

ARTICLE 8

Each Party shall encourage exchanges of documentation in the audio-visual field between libraries, archives and other appropriate institutions in Canada and in the USSR, on the basis of reciprocity and in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in each country.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 9

The Rules of Procedure and the financial terms for each area of co-operation identified in Articles 2 to 8 shall be determined by mutual consent.

ARTICLE 10

Each Party shall facilitate the circulation and temporary residence in their territory of personnel involved in the application of Articles 2 to 8. They shall similarly permit the temporary entry and re-export of any equipment necessary for the application of the above Articles.

ARTICLE 11

The two Parties shall establish a Joint Soviet-Canadian Commission on Audio-Visual Relations which is responsible for examining the terms and conditions and the implementation of this Agreement, resolving any difficulties that may arise and recommending the modifications intended to develop co-operation for the common good of both countries.

During the term of the present Agreement, a meeting of this Commission shall take place once every two years, alternating between the USSR and Canada; it may also be convened for extraordinary sessions at the request of either of the Contracting Parties, particularly in the case of major amendments to the legislation or regulations governing the audio-visual industries.

The Soviet part of the Joint Commission shall be headed by a representative of the State Committee of the USSR for Cinematography; the Canadian part of the Joint Commission shall be headed by a representative of the Department of Communications.

ARTICLE 12

The present Agreement will be applied from the date of its signature.

It shall remain in force for a period of three (3) years. A tacit renewal of the Agreement for like periods shall take place unless one or the other Party gives written notice of termination six (6) months before the expiry date.