

News Release

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TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS OTTAWA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced today that the Tunisian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Habib Ben Yahia, will pay an official visit to Canada on November 16 and 17.

Mr. Ben Yahia will head his country's delegation to the tenth session of the Canada-Tunisia Bilateral Commission, which meets to discuss means of strengthening co-operation and trade between the two countries. Mr. Ouellet and Mr. Ben Yahia will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with respect to the Canadian International Development Agency's \$60 million Private Sector Development Fund for the Maghreb, which was announced in Casablanca on October 31.

Mr. Ouellet will meet with his Tunisian counterpart to discuss bilateral relations and areas of mutual interest. Tunisia is a member of La Francophonie and is currently the chair of the Organization of African Unity. Tunisia is a member of the Middle East Refugee Working Group, which is chaired by Canada, and an active participant in the Middle East peace process.

Mr. Ben Yahia will also meet with the President of the Canadian International Development Agency, Huguette Labelle.

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