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TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT OTTAWA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Ahmet Kurtcebe Alptemoçin, will be in Ottawa February 25 to 27. Mr. Alptemoçin will meet with Prime Minister Mulroney in addition to his host Mr. Clark.

Discussions with the Turkish Foreign Minister will centre on the Gulf Crisis, especially the post-hostilities period, and other issues related to peace and development in the Middle East. Canada-Turkey bilateral relations, as well as other regional issues, will be reviewed.

"Turkey has a unique and important vantage point on the Gulf Crisis," stated Mr. Clark. "I look forward to sharing ideas with Mr. Alptemoçin on how Canada and Turkey can co-operate in efforts to find a lasting and just peace in the Middle East."

Mr. Alptemoçin's visit to Ottawa is part of a series of consultations which the Turkish Foreign Minister has undertaken in the Middle East, North America and Europe. This is the first official visit to Ottawa of a Turkish foreign minister since 1978.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office
External Affairs and International Trade Canada
(613) 995-1874