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NINTH SESSION OF CANADA-TUNISIA BILATERAL COMMISSION

The Honourable Monique Vézina, Minister for External Relations, disclosed today that the 9th session of the Canada-Tunisia Bilateral Commission would be held in Ottawa on October 30 and 31, 1985. Mrs Vézina will chair the Commission's deliberations jointly with His Excellency Mr Ahmed Ben Arfa, the Secretary of State for the Tunisian Foreign Ministry, in charge of international cooperation.

The main objective of this Commission is to examine and promote bilateral cooperation between Tunisia and Canada, with special emphasis on economic and commercial exchange and personal and cultural cooperation. The Commission will also seek means of intensifying the use of existing mechanisms and examining new ones in order to generate a more dynamic form of cooperation for the benefit of both countries. It will also help to set the guidelines for interchange in the coming years.

During his visit to Canada, Mr Ben Arfa will also meet with several members of Cabinet whose responsibilities relate to bilateralism and who can help to make it dynamic and successful. He will also meet with senior Canadian officials who are likely to play a part in following through on the decisions made by the Commission. At the close of the Bilateral Commission meetings, Mr Ben Arfa will visit Quebec officials.