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OUELLET TO MEET WITH COMMISSIONER-GENERAL OF UNITED NATIONS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that he is meeting today with Ilter Türkmen, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Mr. Türkmen is on a three-day visit to

"We appreciate the fine work done by UNRWA with Palestinian refugees for more than 45 years," said Mr Ouellet. "It is our deepest hope that the Refugee Working Group of the multilateral Middle East peace process, which is chaired by Canada, will help improve the living conditions of refugees and help to achieve a comprehensive and viable solution to the refugee issue."

Mr. Türkmen was appointed Commissioner-General of UNRWA in January 1991. The Agency, which was established in 1949, is based in Vienna and has a branch in Amman. It provides assistance to some three million registered Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

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