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VISIT TO CANADA OF IRAQI MINISTER OF TRADE

The Minister for International Trade, the Honourable James Kelleher announced today that his counterpart in Iraq, Member of the Revolutionary Command Council and Minister of Trade, His Excellency Hassan Ali, will visit Canada from May 6-10, 1985.

The Iraqi Minister will be accompanied by a member of the National Assembly and a Delegation of senior officials from government Ministries, State Organizations and the Central Bank. During their visit the Minister and his Delegation will have an opportunity to examine Canadian technological and industrial capability, particularly in the power, telecommunication and transportation sectors, and to meet with private-sector companies that are interested in the Iraq market.

In Ottawa the two Ministers will preside over the opening proceedings of the first meeting of the Canada/Iraq Joint Economic Commission. The Commission, which was envisaged in the 1982 Agreement on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation between the two Governments, will examine in detail means to strengthen mutually-rewarding cooperation between Iraq and Canada as envisaged in the Agreement. The visit will also provide an opportunity to review all aspects of Canada/Iraq relations, as well as current developments in the Middle East.