



communiqué

N^o:
No.: 166

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 18, 1982

OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE
MINISTER OF STATE (EXTERNAL RELATIONS)
TO ALGERIA

The Honourable Charles Lapointe, Minister of State (External Relations), has just completed a short working visit to Algiers at the invitation of His Excellency Mr. Salah Goudjil, the Algerian Minister of Transportation and Fisheries. The Ministers discussed various aspects of Canada-Algerian cooperation, emphasizing the transportation sector and the priority given to Algeria's five-year plan. Algeria's requirements for land, air and sea transportation infrastructures and equipment were also reviewed.

Mr. Lapointe reaffirmed the interest and desire of the Canadian private sector and the government to continue the close cooperation that already exists in this area. The two Ministers gave official sanction to the implementation of a contract signed on this occasion by the heads of SOFATI of Montreal and of the Société nationale des transports de voyageurs (SNTV) and the Société nationale des transports routiers (SNTR) of Algeria. The contract provides for the construction of 32 motor vehicle maintenance centres and is valued at \$250 million.

Emphasizing the desire of their governments to promote closer technological relations between the industrial sectors of the two countries, the Ministers expressed satisfaction with the efforts already made on both sides and agreed to do their utmost to provide conditions in the transportation sector conducive to the development of harmonious bilateral economic relations.