

cooperation. On this occasion, Morocco and Canada agreed in principle to initiate talks aimed at signing a prisoner exchange treaty.

During his visit to Casablanca, the economic capital of Morocco, for the 30th International Fair of Casablanca, Mr. Lapointe, hosted by Trade, Industry and Tourism Minister Azeddine Guessous, who visited Canada in October 1982, pointed out that the participation in the Fair of some twenty Canadian industrialists and businessmen, made possible in most cases through the CIDA Industrial Cooperation Program, was an indication of the importance attached by Canada to strengthening commercial exchanges with Morocco, already its fourth largest trade partner in Africa.

Minister Lapointe also announced that with the assistance and support of the Moroccan authorities, Canada would be prepared to organize in 1984 a two-week Technology Exhibition for Africa in Casablanca that would be of interest to African and Middle Eastern countries. Ministers Guessous and Lapointe also accepted the Honourary Presidency of a Morocco-Canada Friendship Association, open to all who wished to see the two countries brought closer together and directed mainly by businessmen on both sides of the Atlantic.

At the conclusion of his official visit, Mr. Lapointe thanked the Moroccan Government for its warm welcome and informed the press that the two countries had agreed in principle to hold the second session of the Canada-Morocco Bilateral Commission in Canada in the spring of 1984.