

agricultural experts at the National School of Agriculture in Morocco and for the establishment of a doctoral program at the Moroccan National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics. In addition, hundreds of Moroccan, Algerian and Tunisian students and trainees have studied in Canada under CIDA auspices over the last seven or eight years; there were about 150 studying in Canada in 1973-74.

Beyond Maghreb

Beyond the confines of the Maghreb, the Canadian Government has recently started to study the possibility of extending development assistance and technical co-operation to other Arab countries. Preliminary discussions have already taken place concerning projects that CIDA might undertake in the Sudan, a country whose unused agricultural potential is regarded as being particularly important for meeting not only its own food requirements but also those of many other developing countries in Africa and the Middle East. Similar discussions have also taken place with the Government of Egypt. During his visit to Cairo in January 1976, the then Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan MacEachen, stated:

"active consideration is being given to the provision by the Canadian International Development Agency of bilateral technical and financial assistance for Egyptian development projects . . . I have invited the Arab Republic of Egypt to send an economic mission to Canada so that officials of both governments may explore the opportunities for development co-operation."

At the same time, the Minister said that CIDA had already been authorized to make a contribution of \$1 million

to the special account of the UNDP for the reconstruction of the Suez Canal region.

Talks have also been held between senior officials of the Canadian and Kuwaiti Governments concerning the possibility of joint co-operation in what has come to be known as "trilateral assistance" — the combining of Canadian technical expertise and Kuwaiti financial resources to assist developing countries. The president of CIDA, Paul Gérin-Lajoie, discussed this subject with representatives of the Kuwaiti Government during his visit to Kuwait in December 1974; he described these conversations as "very positive".

Growth in trade

From admittedly modest beginnings, Canada's trade with the Arab world has in recent years grown remarkably. The total value of Canadian exports to Arab countries increased by more than 1,000 per cent between 1969 and 1974, as is illustrated in Table A.

Canada's exports have so far consisted largely of agricultural products (wheat, wheat flour, barley, sugar) and semi-processed raw materials (lumber, wood pulp, metals). Inroads are, however, progressively being made into markets for manufactured goods and, in 1974, approximately half Canada's exports to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Libya and the United Arab Emirates consisted of manufactured products — engines, construction machinery, automobiles, heating and refrigeration equipment, telecommunications equipment, etc. It seems likely that this trend will continue in the near future. For example, Canadian firms recently secured contracts for the sale to Iraq and Egypt of some 75 locomotives, valued at approximately \$40 million. Promising negotia-

Table A
Canadian exports
(in millions of dollars)

Country	1969	1974	1975
Morocco	1.46	2.49	18.97
Algeria	2.94	152.84	100.55
Tunisia	2.58	9.67	9.35
Libya	2.36	5.78	22.66
Egypt	2.94	13.91	6.56
Sudan	.49	2.66	4.16
Lebanon	3.57	44.54	40.55
Jordan	.64	3.51	2.43
Syria	.90	13.78	4.74
Iraq	2.74	18.90	67.60
Saudi Arabia	3.61	17.50	34.85
Kuwait	1.70	4.82	16.07
Yemen PDR	.01	5.78	6.51
Qatar	.15	3.51	1.54
United Arab Emirates	—	3.80	4.65
Totals	26.09	303.49	341.19