
Media Advisory

January 10, 2002

No. 4

David Kilgour, Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa), will visit: Algiers, Algeria; Tunis, Tunisia; and Tripoli, Libya, from January 12 to 19, 2002.

Algeria is Canada's largest trading partner in Africa and the Middle East and represents an important bilateral relationship. While in Algiers from January 12 to 14, Mr. Kilgour is scheduled to meet with Ahmed Amine Kherbi, Minister Delegate to the Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Chakib Khelil, Minister of Energy and Mines. During a visit to a school supported by a Canada Fund Project, Le Service d'aide mobile de l'urgence sociale (SAMU), he will present a cheque that will finance the building of classrooms and a playground for homeless children.

In Tunis, from January 14 to 16, Mr. Kilgour will co-chair the Regional Seminar on the Ottawa Convention in North Africa. Key objectives of the conference are to discuss international cooperation mechanisms in mine action and foster the conditions required for eventual adherence to the Ottawa Convention by all countries of the region. Mr. Kilgour will also meet with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Habib Ben Yahia, and the Secretary of State in Charge of Maghrebi and African Affairs, Sadok Fayala.

The first ever Canadian minister to visit Libya, Secretary of State Kilgour will be in Tripoli from January 16 to 18. As a reflection of Canada's enhanced dialogue on a variety of issues and our increasing commercial ties, he will officially open the Canadian embassy and meet the General Secretary (Minister) of Foreign Affairs, Abdel Rahman Shalgham, and the General Secretary (Minister) of African Unity, Ali Abdel Salam Treiki. Mr. Kilgour will also host a small reception for the Canadian community in Libya. The visit is intended to reinvigorate constructive political dialogue with a view to encouraging Libya's efforts in the process of reintegration into the international system.

Media opportunities are scheduled as follows:

Visit to Canada Fund Project: SAMU

Date: Monday, January 14, 2002

Time: 3:30 p.m.

Location: Frères Hamza Street
Dely Brahim-Alger, Algeria

