

INDUSTRIAL
ACTIVITIES

The scale of industries is generally small. In recent years, a significant degree of industrial development has taken place in Egypt and Iran, related chiefly to building materials, processing of agricultural products, textiles and light consumer goods. Israel has a developed Western style economy producing a wide variety of goods including high technology products.

OIL PRODUCTION

Oil is by far the main source of the region's economic wealth. In 1984 it produced 15 million barrels per day making the Gulf states and Saudi Arabia among the most wealthy in the world. Reserves are estimated at 450 billion barrels and could last for over 100 years at the 1984 levels of production. Oil production is concentrated in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq and Libya.

WORLD TRADE

In 1984, countries of the region imported goods for a total value of \$150 billion (US); their exports also reached the \$150 billion (US) level. The 1985 figures are expected to show a decline largely due to falling oil prices.

TRADE WITH
CANADA

We exported to the region an estimated \$3 billion (Cdn) of goods and services in 1984. Our exports have shown dramatic growth in the last decade. However the still incomplete 1985 statistics reflect a decline in sales to the region. Canadian exports chiefly comprise agricultural products, finished goods and high technology equipment and engineering/consulting services. Our main clients are: Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

Our imports from the region are valued at approximately \$750 million (Cdn). We purchase mainly oil but also cotton and fruits. We buy chiefly from Algeria, Iran, Egypt and Israel. From the latter we also import high technology equipment.

IMMIGRATION
TO CANADA

On average from 5-6,000 annually mainly from Iran, Lebanon, Iraq, Israel and Egypt.

CANADIAN
EMBASSIES

We have embassies in: Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Israel, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.