

At the invitation of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, a delegation of the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco visited Ottawa from February 11 to February 14, 1975. The Moroccan delegation was headed by Mr. Salah M'Zily, Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform. High officials from several Departments, including Agriculture, Planning, Education, Co-operation, Labour, and Trade and Commerce, formed part of the delegation. The conversations that have just taken place were carried out in the context of the bilateral relations between the two countries.

The two sides reviewed the whole range of political, economic, commercial and technical relations between Canada and Morocco.

An air agreement between Canada and Morocco was signed by Mr. Salah M'Zily for the Moroccan side and by the Minister of Transport, Mr. Jean Marchand, for the Canadian Government. This agreement provides for the opening of the route Casablanca-New York-Montreal and return.

An important project in the field of education has also been signed. This project, which should get under way in the near future, provides for the setting up of "centres d'éducation régionaux" (regional education centres) to train science teachers. This project will be implemented in close co-operation with the Government of the Province of Quebec.

Other projects, in particular in the fields of agriculture, rural development and training of managerial personnel have also been examined and agreements have been reached on some of these projects.

In the field of commercial co-operation, the possibilities for increasing trade between the two countries have been examined. The two Governments have agreed to continue these discussions. In this regard, it has been agreed that a group of Canadian businessmen will soon visit Morocco, accompanied by a senior official in the Canadian Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

Mr. M'Zily and his delegation are leaving Ottawa this afternoon for Edmonton, where they will be the guests of the Government of Alberta, and Manitoba where they will meet with the Canadian Wheat Board. They are also scheduled to make a visit to Quebec City at the invitation of the Government of the Province of Quebec.