



communiqué

N^o:
No.: 18

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: FEBRUARY 12, 1982

CANADA-TUNISIA BILATERAL COMMISSION MEETINGS FEBRUARY 8-10, 1982

The Honourable Pierre De Bané, Minister of External Relations, said in Tunis yesterday that Canada's economic partners should be sensitive to Canada's export development concerns by giving favourable consideration to Canadian business interests. Mr. De Bané was in Tunisia to head the Canadian delegation at the Eighth Session of the Canada-Tunisia Bilateral Commission, which met from February 8 to 10, 1982. He told the session, which reviewed the full range of economic relations between the two countries, that one out of every four jobs in Canada was dependent on foreign markets.

"We must be quite clear", Mr. De Bané said, "we, in Canada, also face difficult times. In future, Canadian businesses should not be turned away when they offer better products at better prices."

Minister De Bané said that the fact he was being accompanied by over 20 Canadian businessmen illustrated the importance the Canadian Government attached to economic spinoffs directed to Canadian firms. He delivered this message in meetings with the Tunisian Prime Minister and other members of that government.

The External Relations Minister's message resulted in an extensive meeting with the Tunisian Minister of Finance who assured the businessmen accompanying Mr. De Bané that he would give serious consideration