



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

N^o: 66
No.: 66

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: APRIL 26, 1982

SECOND SESSION OF CANADA-ALGERIA
JOINT COMMISSION
ALGIERS, APRIL 19-21, 1982

The Honourable Pierre De Bané, Minister for External Relations, announced today that the second session of the Canada-Algeria Intergovernmental Commission was held in Algiers on April 19, 20 and 21, 1982. The Canadian delegation was headed by Mr. De Bané. His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Khellef, the Algerian Minister of Commerce, and His Excellency Mr. Ali Oubouzar, the Secretary of State for Foreign Trade, headed the Algerian delegation.

During his stay in Algeria, Mr. De Bané held talks with Mr. Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, the Prime Minister, Mr. Rabah Bitat, President of the National People's Assembly, and several Algerian ministers. Mr. De Bané also inspected a certain number of projects being carried out by Canadian companies.

The Chairmen of the Commission reviewed the state of bilateral relations between Canada and Algeria, and were pleased to note the increased cooperation and the spirit of mutual understanding and friendship that had developed. They expressed a common desire to further outline the objectives of economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation in order to find better ways of making even more substantial progress in the interest of both parties.

Both parties were pleased with the formula of government-to-government sectoral agreements that was being used, and noted with satisfaction that an initial agreement of

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this kind had been concluded in the professional training sector, while a second was being negotiated in tourism. The parties were also pleased with the signing of important pluri-annual contracts pertaining to wheat, colza and milk, and agreed to use this formula for various activity sectors. They also took note of the large number of missions exchanged over the past year, and expressed the hope that exchanges such as these would continue to take place in view of the definite benefits such exchanges had already produced.

Also observed by the delegations was the dovetailing of the priority sectors in Algeria's Five-Year Plan with the leading areas of Canadian industry, mainly in the areas of transportation, construction and habitat, hydraulics, telecommunications, agriculture and tourism. Both parties emphasized the importance of expanding their relations beyond the industrial level, especially in the area of training. With this in mind, they examined a proposed technical cooperation agreement and came to terms on the principles and objectives that would govern it.

At the termination of his visit to Algeria, the Honourable Pierre De Bané expressed his thanks to the Algerian authorities for the fine reception he and the members of the delegation had received, observing that the success of this second meeting of the Inter-governmental Commission for Economic, Technical and Scientific Cooperation was proof of the productive friendship and spirit of cooperation that exists between Canada and Algeria.