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Biographical Note

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ABDELAZIZ BOUTEFLIKA OF ALGERIA ELECTED PRESIDENT
OF TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Foreign Minister of Algeria, was today elected President of the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly. He is a member of the Revolutionary Council of Algeria.

Mr. Bouteflika was born on 2 March 1937 at Tlemcen, Algeria. After his secondary education, he pursued studies in philosophy, which were interrupted when he joined the National Liberation Front (FLN), followed by service in the National Liberation Army (ALN).

He was Sectional Secretary-General of the General Union of Algerian Moslem Students (UGEMA). As an officer of the ALN General Staff, he was a close collaborator with President Boumedienne, then Chief of the General Staff, and undertook several politico-military missions.

In September 1962, he became Minister of Youth and Tourism and as, of April 1963, he was called on to fulfil numerous foreign missions as Minister for Foreign Affairs ad interim. In June 1963, he was confirmed in his duties of Minister for Foreign Affairs and has been in that post since.

He was a member of the first Constitutional Assembly and was elected as a deputy from Tlemcen to the first and second Legislative Assemblies. After the FLN Congress of April 1964, he was designated a member of the Central Committee and of the Political Bureau of the FLN.

Mr. Bouteflika headed the Algerian inter-ministerial delegation for the Algerian-French negotiations (1963) aimed at solving the pending administrative, financial and commercial problems left over after independence; the Algerian delegation to the 1966 negotiations; and those of 1971 on the settlement of the petroleum question.

In the United Nations, Mr. Bouteflika has headed the Algerian delegation to the regular and special sessions of the General Assembly since 1963. He also headed his country's delegation to the fifty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council and to the second and third sessions of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in New Delhi in 1968 and in Santiago in 1973.

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In the "Group of 77" developing countries, he was President of the first Conference of Ministers of member countries of the Group held at Algiers in October 1967 and headed the Algerian delegation to the second conference in Lima in October 1971. As for conferences of the non-aligned countries, he was a member of the Algerian delegation to the second Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cairo in 1964, and headed the Algerian delegation to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries held in Dar es Salaam, and was General Rapporteur of that Conference.

He headed the Algerian delegation to the Conference of Heads of States and Governments of Non-Aligned Countries held in Lusaka in 1970 and to the Conferences of Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries, held in New York in 1971 and in Georgetown in 1972. He also headed the Algerian delegation to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Non-Aligned Countries held in Kabul in 1973.

He was President of the Conference of Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries entrusted with the preparation of the Fourth Algiers Summit in 1973 and a member of the Algerian delegation to the Fourth Conference of Heads of States and Governments.

In the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Mr. Bouteflika was Rapporteur of the first session of the Council of Ministers of the OAU held in Dakar in April 1963 and headed the Algerian delegations at all sessions of the Council of Ministers since the organization was established. He was President of the eleventh session of the Council of Ministers held in Algiers in 1968.

He was a member of the Algerian delegation to the first and second summit Conferences of States Members of the Arab League, held in Cairo and Alexandria; head of the Algerian delegation to the Conference of Heads of States and Governments of Arab States, held in Khartoum in 1967; and President of the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs entrusted with the preparations for the sixth summit Conference of Heads of Arab States and Governments, held in Algiers in 1973.

He was a member of the Algerian delegation to the first and second summit Conferences of Islamic Countries, held in Rabat (1969) and Lahore (1974); head of the Algerian delegation to the Conference of Ministers of Islamic Countries, held in Benghazi (1972) and Kuala Lumpur (1974).