

Jordan, Canada to finalize nuclear cooperation accord

Jordan and Canada plan to wrap up a nuclear cooperation agreement this summer, Khalid Touqan, head of Jordan's Nuclear Authority, said Thursday.

'A Canadian Foreign Ministry delegation will visit Jordan next week to finalize negotiations on a nuclear cooperation accord between the two countries,' Touqan was quoted as saying by the official Petra news agency after talks in Amman with a visiting Canadian delegation representing Atomic Energy of Canada and the SNC Lavalin group.

He said that the Canadian side would like to supply Jordan with a CANDU reactor capable of generating 750 megawatts of electricity.

Touqan said that the Jordanian Nuclear Authority was also conducting talks with nuclear agencies from the United States, France, Russia, China and Korea to choose the best design of nuclear reactors.

The Jordan Phosphates Mines Co is also involved in talks with SNC Lavalin on producing uranium from the Jordanian phosphates ores.

Jordan and other Arab countries have expressed enthusiasm for civil nuclear technology despite controversy over Iran's nuclear programme, which Western nations fear could be used to produce weapons. dpa ajm aw

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