

Brazil Wants to Reduce Its Trade Deficit with Algeria by Building Houses

Contributed by Vitor Abdala
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Brazil's Minister of Development, Industry and External Trade, Luiz Fernando Furlan, said today that Brazil may reduce the trade deficit with Algeria, through new business initiatives in the country, especially in the civil construction area.

Furlan integrates the presidential delegation that today began a trip to four African countries.

According to the Minister, there are great opportunities in the popular housing area, because the Algerian government intends to build 500,000 houses per year.

There is already a Brazilian consortium disputing participation on the project. In addition, there is also a US\$ 60 billion infrastructure program, to be developed in five years.

Furlan said that two large Brazilian companies - Norberto Odebrecht and Andrade Gutierrez - are bidding to build a 1,220-km road.

Algerian President, Abdelaziz Bouteflika, told Furlan that the bid would not only consider the price issue, but it would also assess the capability of the companies and countries to keep up with the support and commitment.

Furlan affirmed that Brazilian companies may also get involved with trailers assembly in Algeria. And he added that Brazilian oil company, Petrobras, may establish a partnership with the Algerian Sonatrach.

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