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Algeria is Vietnam's priority partner, says President Triet

Vietnam wants to foster friendly ties with Algeria and considers this nation a priority partner among Vietnam's traditional friends in North Africa and across the world, says State President Nguyen Minh Triet.

Mr Triet made the statement during talks with his Algerian counterpart Abdelaziz Bouteflika in capital Algiers on April 14. President Triet (L) exchanges views with his Algerian counterpart Bouteflika in Algiers. He lauded the Algerian people's achievements in carrying out the policy of national conciliation and concord as well as in national construction and development. He assured his host that relations between Vietnam and Algeria have fared well in many areas. President Bouteflika welcomed Mr Triet's first visit, which he said will help bring the friendly and cooperative relations to new heights. He praised Vietnam's Renewal achievements and acknowledged its efforts to cushion the negative impact of the global economic recession and obtain relatively high growth in the Asia and Pacific region. In its foreign policy, Algeria attaches great importance to developing ties with Vietnam — one of its traditional friends in Asia, said President Bouteflika. Both host and guest discussed measures to expand bilateral relations, especially in oil & gas, trade, construction and labour, through the exchange of visits at all levels. They welcomed the signing of cooperation agreements during the visit, which they said will lay a firm legal foundation for promoting bilateral cooperation. The two leaders also exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual concern. Mr Triet invited President Bouteflika to visit Vietnam, and the invitation was accepted with pleasure. Vietnamese ministers, who are accompanying Mr Triet, held working sessions with their Algerian counterparts. They agreed to work closely to make the upcoming session of the Vietnam-Algeria Inter-governmental Committee a success.