For innovative Tunisia in coming years (former German president)

TUNIS (TAP)-Former German President and President of the Euro-Mediterranean Arab Association for Co-operation and Development (EMA) Christian Wulff said the German want to have, in the next years, a new image of Tunisia, that of an innovative country with modern basic infrastructure and a good educational system.

Speaking at the opening of a Tunisian-German economic forum held from December 2 to 5, 2015, Wulff added that Germany usually works with Tunisia only as a tourist country that, however, has modern basic infrastructure and the foundations for investment recovery.

Addressing 200 businessmen from Tunisia and Germany, the German official said the objective of this forum is to highlight the new prospects of the Tunisian economy and encourage promoters to develop their projects.

Some 40 businessmen will meet their counterparts and will visit the Business Days held in Sousse to build equal partnership in a country home to some 200 German companies providing 55,000 jobs to the Tunisians.

Wulff also said that the German diplomacy in Tunisia asserted that the Tunisian authorities are working to resolve the difficulties faced by the German company in Tunisia.

Tunisia is an economic destination for Germany and a bridge for co-operation with the African continent, he said, underlining that he recently told more than 1,500 businessmen in Germany he hoped to see Tunisia become “Africa’s Switzerland.”

Besides, he also said he has been committed for many years to develop Mediterranean countries and settle conflicts, adding that German advocate development and social stability in Tunisia, besides the success of the democratic process.

President of the Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade and Handicrafts (UTICA) Wided Bouchemaoui called to boost Tunisian-German co-operation.

She said, in this respect, that German companies have continued to invest in Tunisia and some of them have expanded their investments.

Tunisia boasts a developed industrial sector and can attract German investment, said Bouchemaoui, referring, in this respect, to the sectors of automotive components and energy.