

national problems and Canada's support of ASEAN and its objectives. Contacts are enhanced by various facilitative agreements on investment and double taxation, by EDC financing arrangements, and by Singapore's excellent investment climate. It is also a vantage point for the government and private sector in pursuing business opportunities in Southeast Asia.

In line with its general foreign policy concerns, Singapore welcomes Canadian support for ASEAN and often encourages Canada to play a moderating role in international discussions of economic issues that arise between developed and developing countries. On more specific matters, Singapore would like better access to Canadian markets. Canadian-Singaporean relations bilaterally and otherwise through Commonwealth and United Nations mechanisms are sound and provide a good foundation for further development in all spheres of activity.

In June, 1982 the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. MacGuigan, attended the meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers with Foreign Ministers of Dialogue countries in Singapore. The Minister of Employment and Immigration, Mr. Axworthy, visited Singapore in 1981, and both Dr. MacGuigan and Mr. Lumley, Minister of State for Trade, visited Singapore in 1980. Visits to Canada were made by the Foreign Minister of Singapore, Mr. Suppiah Dhanabalan, and by Communications Minister Ong Teng Cheong during 1980.

Trade between Singapore and Canada is carried out under the GATT; there is no bilateral trade agreement. Singapore is a beneficiary of Canada's General Preferential Tariff in favour of developing countries along with our British Preferential Tariff. Discussions on textile restraints were conducted in Singapore on October 13, 1981, and the two delegations met again from June 1-3, 1982 to complete negotiations for a new five-year textile agreement. Bilateral agreements are in effect covering double taxation and foreign investment insurance.

Canadian exports to Singapore were \$145.7 million in 1981, down from the 1980 total of \$198.1 million. Canadian imports from Singapore totalled \$174.6 million in 1981, up from \$149.5 million in 1980.

It should be noted that because of the significant value of entrepôt trade of Singapore, a sizable portion of trade with that country is destined for or originates from neighbouring countries. In fact, many Canadian exports of pulp and paper, potash, zinc and manufactured goods to Singapore are destined for the Malaysian and Indonesian