

Canada is also an active supporter of the objectives of the Association of South-East Asian Nations of which Malaysia is such a constructive member. Canada has made an offer of development assistance to ASEAN in support of regional cooperation, and we are also examining ways of opening a dialogue with ASEAN as a whole.

Thus Malaysia and Canada share a number of bilateral and multilateral interests including membership in the Commonwealth. For these reasons I think that both our countries will benefit from broader consultations on political questions both regional and world-wide that we are having. I am equally confident that there is room for expansion in mutually beneficial economic relations.

We have a solid base to build on, and I venture to say, a commitment on both sides to make the most of our opportunities.