

## Canada-ASEAN Developments

### Science Television Training For ASEAN Film Producers



*CBC producer John Bassett training participants in video-tape editing.*

Two Producer-Directors with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's (CBC) internationally successful science series "The Nature of Things" were recently in Kuala Lumpur to conduct a one-month course on the production of science television programs. They are Nancy Archibald and John Bassett.

The course was organised by the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) with funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada. Among the participants were television crew-members from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

The course touched on the vital role played by scientific and technological research in development and the important contribution television producers can make by helping to communicate such research findings to their end-users.

The powerful combination of audio and visual messages in television permits producers to not only describe things but also to show and demonstrate how they work. Recent advances in both cinematographic and video-recording hardware have further enhanced television's capacity to communicate scientific information.

The advances in hardware have been accompanied by even more important refinements in scripting and production techniques. Progressive science documentary producers, a good number of them Canadians, have pioneered effective methods of bringing science and technology to non-specialized TV audiences through interesting and easily assimilated programs. Much of these scripting and production techniques involve only the use of simple video equipment available in almost all developing countries.

The AIBD course focused on training the participants in the application of these techniques.

### Energy Seminars Agreement Signed

On December 23, 1985 Ambassador Reginald Hardy Dorrett, representing the Canadian government, and Acting Foreign Minister Pacifico A Castro, representing ASEAN, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the ASEAN-Canada Energy Seminars Project.

Through this project, the Canadian government will make up to C\$911,000 available to ASEAN to permit representatives to participate in three energy seminars. The seminars, to be conducted in Canada during the coming year, will focus on the management, distribution and development of energy resources, energy conservation, and the use of coal and natural gas in electrical power generation. ASEAN participants will also have

facilities to discuss energy issues and observe Canadian methods and technologies.

With the launching of this new venture, a total of seven ASEAN-Canada development cooperation projects or programs are now operational. Other projects have focussed on the Forestry Sector, Post-Harvest Technologies for Agricultural Crops and Fisheries, and Marine Resource Management. The Canadian governments total commitment for these seven projects exceeds C\$15 million. These projects represent a portion of the Canadian governments official development assistance program for the ASEAN region, which now totals over C\$250 million in commitments for current projects.



*Ambassador Reg Dorrett presenting a special set of coins to Philippine Central Bank Governor, Jose Fernandez, Jr. as part of the regional launch for 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, Alberta.*

### Regional Info Centre

The South-East Asian Weed Information Centre (SEAWIC) was recently launched with a \$313,000 grant from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada. It is a project of the South-East Asian Regional Center for Tropical Biology (SEAMEO-BIOTROP). SEAWIC plans to operate a microcomputer-based bibliographic database, build a herbarium of specimens, prepare an inventory of herbarium records and provide a weed identification service. It also plans to publish annotated bibliographies, information leaflets and a newsletter.