

I AM PLEASED THAT NEITHER OF US TAKES THE RELATIONSHIP FOR GRANTED. IN THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S 1986 WHITE PAPER ON FOREIGN POLICY WE STATED THAT "WE SHARE A PROFOUND COMMUNITY OF INTEREST AND CLOSE TIES OF CULTURE AND KINSHIP WITH ...NEW ZEALAND". HELEN CLARK AND HER PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE IN NEW ZEALAND EXPRESSED A SIMILAR SENTIMENT. "NEW ZEALAND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CANADA IS ONE OF THE EASIEST AND WARMEST WHICH NEW ZEALAND HAS."

MISS CLARK AND HER COLLEAGUES ARE TO BE CONGRATULATED IN PRODUCING A MOST VALUABLE AND COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE FOR BOTH GOVERNMENTS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE RELATIONSHIP. THE SCOPE OF EXISTING RELATIONS IS INDEED WIDE. IN THE DIPLOMATIC ARENA, WE ARE CLOSE PARTNERS IN A HOST OF INTERNATIONAL FORUMS RANGING FROM DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE COMMONWEALTH. WE ARE BOTH PARTNERS IN THE DIALOGUE WITH ASEAN AND CANADA IS COMMITTED TO COOPERATION WITH THE SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM.

AS BEFITTING THE CLOSE FRIENDS THAT WE ARE, THERE ARE FEW ISSUES ON WHICH WE DIFFER IN THESE FORUMS. INDEED, IT IS THE MARK OF THE RELATIONSHIP THAT WE WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER INFLUENCING OTHERS AND BRINGING CONSENSUS AND COOPERATION TO BEAR ON DIFFICULT ISSUES AND SITUATIONS.

TOMORROW IN AUCKLAND I WILL BE SPEAKING ON OUR TRADE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP. I JUST WANT TO NOTE HERE THAT I BELIEVE THAT THERE IS MUCH MORE THAT WE CAN BE DOING. WHILE OUR TRADE HAS INCREASED SEVENFOLD SINCE 1967, THERE IS STILL ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. WE ARE YOUR SECOND LARGEST MARKET FOR BEEF AND VEAL. I BELIEVE THAT IN COOPERATION WITH CANADIAN SHEEP PRODUCERS YOU CAN EXPAND THE MARKET FOR LAMB IN CANADA.