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integrity, stability and economic and social well-being of Canada.) Such a commitment will be especially important if we are to convince the countries of the region that Canadian foreign policy has a strong Pacific dimension.

From our point of view we must continue to ask the question: do they want us as a partner?

**Specifics for  
each country**

The broad commitment expected of us takes different forms in different countries. The Republic of Korea, for example, looks for a clear manifestation of support internationally for its sovereignty and territorial integrity *vis-à-vis* the North. This is a vital prerequisite to any strong economic relationship. And stability in Korea is fundamental to the future of the region.

The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries seek less explicit political commitments. Amid the general uncertainties of the region caused by events in Indochina, they look for broad political support which will enhance their interests both individually and increasingly as a group. While economic development remains an essential goal to all countries in the Pacific, there is an assumption that this will flow from political stability in the region. Canada will, of course, continue to do what it can to promote moves towards lasting peace and an end to military tension.

While the situation in Japan, China, Australia and New Zealand is not the same, these countries all welcome, in their own way, Canada's commitment to the well-being of the Pacific region. This positive view is reflected in the totality of their bilateral relationships with us – and in these relationships we will continue to look for reciprocal manifestations of interest on their part.

If responding to the aspirations of our Pacific partners imposes one important set of political imperatives on the way we shape and manage our relationships with the region, another set arises from our need to tailor specific political responses and programs to particular conditions in each country. Let me give you some examples.

In Japan, the unique consensus system and the close consultation and co-ordination between government and business sectors requires special efforts to get to know a wide range of political figures, government officials and decision-makers from the private sector and to persuade them of the importance of Canadian interests. In Korea, and in some ASEAN countries, governments take a leading role in shaping economic development priorities and in deciding many major project contracts. In China, officials have made it clear that a strong and positive political relationship remains the essential ingredient from which all else flows.

But the importance of the political foundation and atmosphere for the success of individual relationships, and the pursuit of specific political, economic and cultural goals does not end here. There is another important dimension; one which, I am sorry to say, has been neglected.

**Cultural  
awareness**

I would define this aspect of political relations under the broad heading of cultural awareness. It encompasses the two-way flow of information of all kinds and the

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