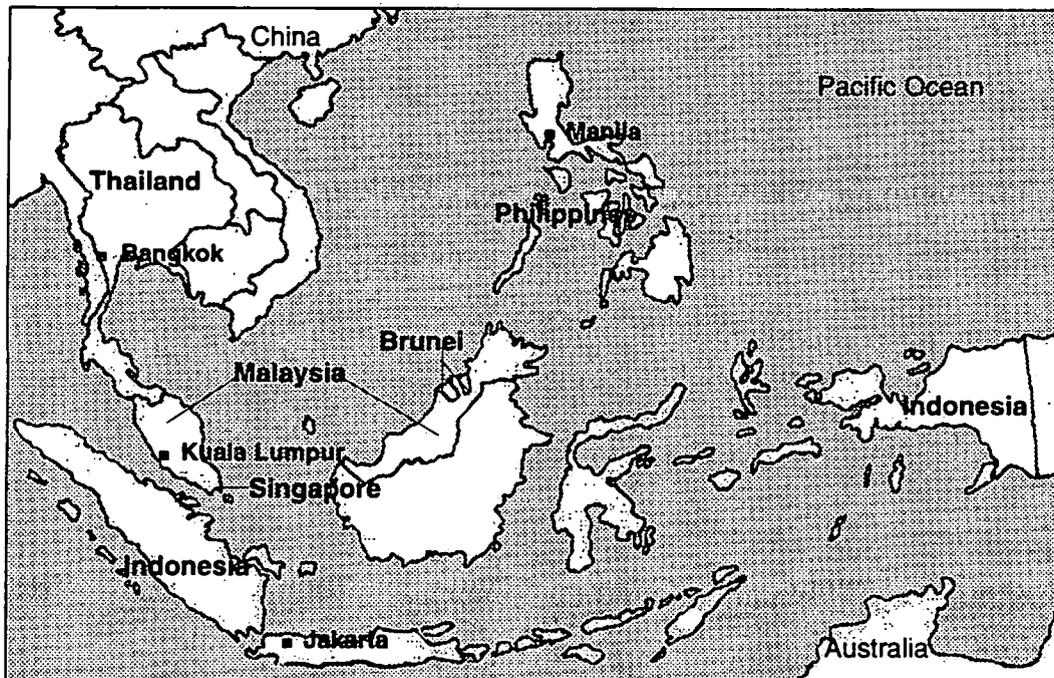




CANADA-ASEAN RELATIONS

Bilateral

- Canada enjoys excellent relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which includes Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Founded in 1967, ASEAN is the most successful regional organization in Asia and the Pacific, with an effective program of consultation and political co-operation.
- ASEAN began establishing "dialogue partnerships" with selected countries in 1972. Canada became a dialogue partner in 1977. The other dialogue partners are Australia, the European Union, Japan, Korea, New Zealand and the United States. The dialogue meeting, known as the Post-Ministerial Conference (PMC) is held after the Association's annual foreign ministers' meeting (AMM). The PMC provides opportunities for exchanges on regional and global issues.
- The 1993 PMC in Singapore endorsed the launching of an ASEAN Regional Forum for the discussion of security issues, to be held this year in conjunction with the Bangkok meetings. Participants will include not only ASEAN countries and dialogue partners, but also China, Russia, Vietnam, Laos and Papua New Guinea, which attend the AMM as observers.
- On a triennial rotating basis, each dialogue partner is paired with an ASEAN country, to coordinate relations for three years. Since 1992, Canada's dialogue partner has been Indonesia.



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