

in the political, economic, scientific and technological fields, and by a cultural agreement concluded in 1976, which serves as a framework for expansion of programs and exchanges involving Japan and Canada.

The ASEAN countries, with which there are excellent prospects for closer industrial co-operation, are becoming more important to Canada. Because of a common historical link and linguistic ties there have long been frequent exchanges between Australians and Canadians in a variety of fields. Canada's international development program began through co-operation under the Colombo Plan with the South Asian countries.

Canada was among the first of the western nations to have diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. In recent years, the two countries have organized cultural and academic programs and sports exchanges, and Canada has made substantial sales of commodities to the PRC,