

## **Philippines**

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP):** US\$54 billion (1993); US\$63.8 billion (1994)  
**GDP Growth Rate:** 2.1% (1993); 4.3% (1994)  
**GDP Per Capita:** US\$830 (1993); US\$950 (1994)  
**Population:** 67 million (1994)

**Head of State and Government:** President Fidel V. Ramos  
**Secretary of Foreign Affairs:** Domingo Siazon, Jr.  
**Minister of Trade and Industry:** Rizalino Navarro

## **Canada-Philippines Relations**

- Canada was one of the first countries to affirm support for the Aquino government and the first to extend export credits. It has been very supportive of President Ramos' efforts to achieve economic growth and political stability.
- Canada and the Philippines work closely together in a number of multilateral forums, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC).
- Immigration is an important element of the bilateral relationship. In 1993, the third-largest group of immigrants to Canada came from the Philippines. The Filipino population in Canada is estimated at 200,000.
- As the Philippines will be host of the 1996 APEC leaders' summit and Canada of the 1997 summit, the two countries are working closely together on APEC issues.
- Trade between Canada and the Philippines has more than quadrupled since 1985, reaching \$664 million in 1994. Canadian exports have grown from only \$45 million in 1985 to \$195 million in 1994 (roughly the same as in 1993). Imports during the same period rose from \$109 million to \$469 million (up from \$387 million in 1993).
- Traditionally, agricultural and resource commodities, including ores, slag and ash, wood pulp, zinc, and paper and paperboard have been the main Canadian exports. However, manufactured exports such as electrical machinery and equipment and boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances have gained importance. Imports from the Philippines consist of electrical machinery and equipments; apparel; boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, clocks and watches; and leather products.