

Noting that two-way trade reached \$396 million last year and is expected to reach \$500 million in 1988, Mr. Clark said "Thailand, as one of the fastest growing economies in South East Asia, represents a highly attractive marketplace for Canadian resource products, manufactured goods, and engineering and consulting services." He pointed to the fact that Canadian-Thai joint ventures typify the direct investment business that is developing in Thailand. A number of British Columbia and Quebec firms had been particularly successful recently in establishing collaborative ventures in seafood producing farms, food processing, medical products, metal working, advertising, and fashion.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), through its Enterprise Thailand Program and the Industrial Cooperation Program, plays an important role in developing contacts between Thai and Canadian business persons for joint ventures, licencing agreements, and tranfer of technology.

Canadian firms are pursuing several major projects in Thailand, including the U.S. \$1.2 billion Bangkok Mass Rapid Transport Project. Canadian business organizations have also been active in Thailand, including the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Canadian Chamber of Commerce (through the ASEAN-Canada Business Council), and the Conference Board of Canada.