



Introduction

Canada's relations with Brunei Darussalam are limited but expanding steadily in sectors of mutual interest. Diplomatic relations between Canada and Brunei were established in early 1984 after Brunei assumed full responsibility for its foreign and defence affairs. Relations have since been pursued mainly through Commonwealth and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) ties. Since Brunei assumed the role of Canada's dialogue co-ordinator with ASEAN in 1988, the bilateral relationship has matured considerably and discussions between the two countries now cover a range of international and multilateral issues of mutual interest such as Cambodia, Pacific Economic Co-operation and UN issues.

This survey reviews the nature and scope of trade and economic relations between Canada and Brunei since the mid-1980s. The brevity of the paper reflects the limited scope of these relations at present but highlights recent developments. Section 2 describes recent economic developments in Brunei, focusing on the growth of the main sectors of its economy and highlighting the priorities for development pursued under the present Five-Year Plan.

Section 3 outlines the main elements of Canada-Brunei trade, the potential business opportunities for Canadians in Brunei and the sectoral studies that have been completed to date to support Canada's export marketing efforts in Brunei.

Section 4 defines the framework for co-operation between the two countries and highlights a number of initiatives planned or under way which have given substance to bilateral relations over the past year.