

Dr. MacGuigan's visit to Thailand will focus on bilateral issues of interest to both countries although multilateral issues, such as Canada's support of ASEAN initiatives in the United Nations to find a peaceful solution to the Cambodia problem, will also be discussed. Canada's new development assistance programme for Thailand announced in 1981, trade relations, investment opportunities, the Indochinese refugee situation and international relief efforts for Cambodia, will be reviewed along with other bilateral and international issues. Dr. MacGuigan will visit the Thai-Cambodian border area during his visit to view firsthand the impact on Thailand of the appalling human tragedy caused by Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge government and the subsequent Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia. Canada has accepted over 25,000 refugees from Thailand since 1975 and has contributed over \$22 million to UN programmes which have provided humanitarian assistance to Cambodians in both Cambodia and Thailand as well as to Thais displaced by the refugee influx.

The visit of Dr. MacGuigan to Thailand reflects the importance which both Thailand and Canada attach to the broadening of relations. Dr. MacGuigan will also personally express Canada's congratulations during Thailand's celebration this year of the bicentennial of the Chakri dynasty and the founding of the capital city of Bangkok.