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Framework for Co-operation

4.1 Agreements and Arrangements Between Canada and Brunei

Owing to the limited trading ties, there are no bilateral agreements or arrangements between Canada and Brunei. However, in a regional context, Canada and Brunei are signatories to the Agreement between Canada and ASEAN on Economic Co-operation which came into effect in June 1982. Under the Agreement, the Joint Co-operation Committee was established to review progress in a range of commercial and development co-operation endeavours between Canada and the ASEAN group. Brunei Darussalam was Canada's dialogue co-ordinator with ASEAN from 1988 to 1991.

4.2 Other Areas of Co-operation

The visit of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, to Brunei in July 1989 for the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference, and that of his counterpart, Prince Mohammed Bolkiah, to Canada in October of the same year have confirmed a mutual wish to explore new avenues of co-operation between Canada and Brunei. The Brunei Foreign Minister returned to Canada in October 1990, along with other ASEAN Foreign Ministers, for a special Canada-ASEAN Ministerial meeting.

Education and Training

A number of projects have been launched to assist Brunei in the area of education.

The Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC) has sent Canadian experts in technical curriculum design to Brunei. These planning specialists have assisted with the development of curriculum for two vocational schools.

The Brunei Ministry of Education has recruited a number of secondary school teachers from British Columbia to teach in schools for a period of 2 years. This has led to the development of a growing number of ties between Brunei and Canada.

Canadian post-secondary institutions are attracting a small number of students from Brunei. Brunei education officials have travelled to British Columbia several times to identify potential destinations for full scholarship students from Brunei and to promote ties in the education field.

Canada is an associate member of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), and in 1991 funded the Jasper/SEAMEO Silver Anniversary Fellowship which enabled scholars to carry out research projects.