

# News Release

# Communiqué

Department of  
External  
Affairs



Ministère des  
Affaires  
extérieures

No. 081

April 14, 1988.

FIFTH ASEAN-CANADA JOINT  
COOPERATION COMMITTEE MEETING (JCC)

The Fifth Meeting of the Canada-ASEAN Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC) took place in Ottawa on April 7-8, 1988. The ASEAN spokesman was Mr. Khun Chawat Arthayukti, Director General for ASEAN, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Thailand. Mrs. Jean McCloskey, Assistant Deputy Minister for Asia and Pacific, Department of External Affairs, led the Canadian delegation. Representatives of the ASEAN Secretariat were also present. The two sides reviewed the various elements of the cooperation between ASEAN and Canada since 1981 and other wide ranging issues including the international economic situation as well as the global trade environment.

The JCC was established under the Canada-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Agreement of 1981. Its main purpose is to review and promote industrial, commercial and development cooperation between Canada and ASEAN, whose member countries are: Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The previous JCC was held in Bangkok, Thailand, on November 25-27, 1986.

The Fifth JCC marked the first participation by the private sector in its deliberations. Representatives of the ASEAN-Canada Business Council (ACBC) participated in discussions related to commercial and industrial cooperation and presented a report on ACBC activities.

In her opening statement, Mrs. Jean McCloskey, Assistant Deputy Minister for the Asia and Pacific Branch of the Canadian Department of External Affairs, underlined the considerable progress which has marked the evolution of ASEAN-Canada relations since the signing of the ASEAN-Canada Economic Cooperation Agreement in 1981. She stressed the importance of the JCC in providing a major opportunity to discuss broad international economic issues that are confronting all nations. The exchanges were particularly timely as Canada will be the host of the next Economic Summit to be held in Toronto in June 1988.

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Secretary of State  
for  
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