

was extended to Dr. Emil Salim, Minister of Environment and Development, to visit British Columbia. Energy issues were examined, including the technical aspects of petroleum and LNG.

The Premier and his party toured the partly Canadian-financed Bukit Asam power project in South Sumatra while Industry and Small Business Development Minister Phillips flew to East Kalimantan to visit a British Columbia-supported forestry vocation training centre as well as oil and LNG export facilities.

The Canadians' visit to Indonesia will be reciprocated in late May when an Indonesian ministerial mission visits Canada.

Premier Bennett had an opportunity to discuss international and regional issues with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew while in Singapore for two days. The leaders discussed the future of the Pacific region, both agreeing that there would be a continued high level of economic development in the next decade.

When he met with Foreign Minister Dhanabalān, Premier Bennett explained that British Columbia, which had traditionally had strong trading links to Japan and Korea, was now interested in expanding economic and commercial activities to Southeast Asia. The Premier briefed Foreign Minister Dhanabalān on British Columbia's capability as a supplier of coal and related technology and on Vancouver's decision to proceed with the construction of a Canadian-designed mass rapid transit system. Both MRT and coal fired thermal power generating stations are projects of considerable interest in Singapore.

In separate meetings with Trade and Industry Minister Goh Chok Tong, Minister Phillips discussed possible joint ventures between Singaporean and British Columbia companies in areas where the province had considerable expertise—in coal and coal handling, aviation, and fish biology and culture. Minister Goh confirmed his ministry's intentions to conduct a trade mission to Canada later this year and agreed to consider participation in trade fairs in British Columbia.

In the Philippines Premier Bennett and his delegation met President Marcos and had meetings with the Ministers of Natural Resources, Trade, and Energy. He also visited areas of British Columbia investment in Zamboanga and Marinduque Island.

As a natural result of the considerable interest of both the Philippines and British Columbia in the energy sector, this topic was the focus of discussions.

The Premier provided a review of British Columbia's capability in coal supply, expertise in coal to oil conversion and opportunities for investment in the energy sector in the province. In addition, comprehensive discussions were held on Philippine thermal coal requirements.

The visitors from British Columbia were impressed by the strength and dynamism which are characteristic of

the ASEAN economies. Opportunities for closer, mutually beneficial economic and commercial co-operation between ASEAN and British Columbia are clearly considerable. Forthcoming trade missions from Indonesia and Singapore to British Columbia and other parts of Canada will help greatly in increasing awareness of the economic potential for co-operation in coming years.

Canada-ASEAN Developments

The Dialogue

AS PART OF the dialogue between Canada and the countries of ASEAN, meetings are held periodically in Ottawa between ASEAN heads of mission and Canadian senior officials to discuss ongoing aspects of the dialogue.

At its most recent meeting the ASEAN-Ottawa Committee (AOC) reviewed a number of political issues, including the situation in Indochina. The committee also touched upon the desirability of establishing a Canada-ASEAN businessmen's group and the central role that businessmen themselves would have to play. Canadian development assistance projects in ASEAN countries were also discussed.

Meanwhile, in Manila, the ASEAN Standing Committee has formally approved two Canadian projects designed to assist in the development of ASEAN forestry and fisheries industries. The first, a tree seed centre to be established in Bangkok, will provide ASEAN forestry experts with facilities for research and training on tropical tree seed varieties. The second, a fisheries post-harvest technology project that will be undertaken in all five ASEAN member countries, will concentrate on post-harvest problems particular to each national fishing industry. Formal signing ceremonies for the projects are expected to take place shortly in Bangkok and Manila.

CANADA'S Secretary of State for External Affairs Dr. Mark MacGuigan will hold discussions with his ASEAN counterparts following the annual meeting of ASEAN foreign ministers scheduled for June 17-18 in Manila.

Foreign ministers from other ASEAN dialogue partner countries—Australia, New Zealand, Japan, the European

Economic Community, and the United States of America—are also expected to attend.

CIDA Stages Joint-Venture Show

UNDER its Industrial Co-operation Program, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has employed several innovative approaches in responding to the development priorities of the countries in ASEAN.

One such approach is a trade show featuring joint venture and transfer of technology aspects of economic co-operation to be held in Singapore from May 11-13 at the Century Park Sheraton hotel.

Sixteen Canadian companies that have indicated a willingness and capacity to establish operations in ASEAN will attend the show. The companies represent a wide range of Canadian expertise in technologies as varied as aquaculture, alternative energy powered alcohol plants, education, construction and fabrication, solar energy, and wind turbines.

In order for the Canadian companies' representatives to meet potential joint-venture partners within ASEAN, officials from the various industrial development authorities in ASEAN capitals, as well as up to five indigenous entrepreneurs, will be sponsored to attend the exhibition in Singapore. There they will have an opportunity of explaining their countries' economic policies and industrial strategies with a view to encouraging Canadian joint-venture participation and investment.

This show is the first of its kind CIDA has sponsored in Asia and reflects the growing Canadian interest in developing closer business ties with ASEAN countries.