

Over the past 12-24 months Canadian relations with ASEAN have expanded onto a broader plane. Canada supported an ASEAN resolution last fall at the UN General Assembly on the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea. Through the industrial cooperation programme of the Canadian International Development Agency, the Canadian Government supported 39 projects undertaken by the Canadian private sector for ASEAN members in 1979/80 of which five were ASEAN-wide and directly supported economic development and cooperation between the ASEAN countries. In November 1979 the Canadian Council for South East Asian Studies (CCSEAS) held a conference for Canadian and ASEAN academics on regional issues. A tour of Canada by ASEAN journalists in October/November 1979 was supported by the Department of External Affairs. The journalists which took part were Mr. B. Lara, Manila, Mr. C. Chan, Kuala Lumpur, Mrs. M. Thomas, Singapore, Miss P. Summondiss, Bangkok, and Mr. Komar, Jakarta.

Canadian two-way trade with the members of the Association grew by over 50% in 1979 to \$820 million. Investment and bank financing each exceed \$1 billion. Canadian prospects for greater commercial involvement in the ASEAN region are particularly good in areas of demonstrated capacity in energy (hydroelectric and nuclear power, oil, gas and coal), forestry, fisheries, mining, transportation and telecommunications.

The participation of the Secretary of State for External Affairs Dr. MacGuigan, in Post-Conference talks with his ASEAN counterparts will underline Canadian support for the Association and for its objectives of peace, stability and development in Southeast Asia and emphasize Canadian interest in broadening and strengthening relations with the Association.