

## Team Canada 1997 – Continued from page 2

### of Canada/Korea Business Councils.

Mr. Chrétien met with **Korean Prime Minister Lee Soo-Sung** and key members of his cabinet. Following the meeting, the Prime Minister and the premiers visited the National Assembly to meet with government and opposition members.

### The Philippines, January 14-16

#### January 14

Prime Minister Chrétien and the official delegation met with **President Fidel Ramos** at Malacanang Palace. Following the meeting, International Trade Minister Art Eggleton was expected to sign the **Canada-Philippines Air Transport Agreement** with Secretary of Foreign Affairs Domingo Siazon Jr. Under interim agreements, Canadian Airlines International began service three times a week between Vancouver and Manila via Hong Kong in October 1996, and Philippines Airlines began non-stop service between Manila and Vancouver four times a week in September 1996.

#### January 15

The Prime Minister met separately with **Senate President Ernesto Maceda, Speaker of the House of Representatives Jose De Vencia** and **Mr. Sato, President of the Asian Development Bank.**

President Ramos addressed about 700 Canadian and Philip-

pine business executives participating in a full-day business networking and information exchange conference at the Philippine International Convention Center. The President's speech was followed by a presentation from Mr. Chrétien.

This was the first **Canada-Philippines Business Forum** where captains of industry in key Canadian and Philippine sectors, including telecommunications, agri-food, energy and environment, gathered to exchange notes and discuss plans for future co-operation.

The Prime Minister and the official delegation visited the **Taguig-Pateros Foundation**, a model community project supported by the Canada Fund and organized by a group of professionals headed by Congressman Dante Tinga to assist families in Taguig and Pateros. Participants are actively involved in arts and crafts activities such as pottery, ceramics, weaving and leather works.

The Canada Fund promotes sustainable development at the grassroots level and has supported 600 projects totalling more than \$9 million over 14 years. It is one of the key elements of Canada's bilateral assistance program in the Philippines.

#### January 16

Following the Prime Minister's visit with **former Philippine President Corazon Aquino**, Mr. Chrétien and the premiers

met with some of the most influential business leaders in the Philippines.

### Thailand, January 17-20

#### January 17

After Prime Minister Chrétien's meeting with **Prime Minister Cahavalit Yongchaiyudh** of Thailand, an expanded meeting was held with Canadian premiers and Thai ministers.

A number of **bilateral agreements** were expected to be signed at a special ceremony, including:

- **The Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA)**, negotiated on December 20, 1996. When formally approved, the FIPA will help ensure Canadian investors can compete in a stable environment and give investors the right to international arbitration in case of disputes.

- **MOU on Environmental Co-operation** with the Thai Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment, which would provide a broad and flexible framework for co-operation on environment and sustainable development issues.

The Prime Minister addressed some 700 business people at the **Thai-Canada Business Conference.**

Mr. Chrétien attended a special  
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