

The next JCC, to be held in Canada in 1991 should reaffirm full partnership with the private sector, and should engage representatives fully in JCC deliberations.

I have asked the Canadian Chapter of the ASEAN-Canada Business Council to consult with its ASEAN private sector partners on specific proposals for their engagement in the JCC. We might want to form a private sector working group to advise on how to enhance Canada-ASEAN economic cooperation.

Our seven Governments might also want to revise the Canada-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Agreement in 1992, to reflect a new relationship with the business community.

Such a step would be in keeping with the directives of ASEAN Heads of Government in 1987 to place new emphasis on partnerships with the private sector.

One year ago, I had the pleasure of opening the Canada-ASEAN Centre in Singapore. That occasion marked the beginning of a new phase in Canada-ASEAN relations, and coincided with a decentralization of the management of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Since the opening of the Centre, four ASEAN development projects have essentially been planned and approved in the field, representing over \$24 million in funding commitments for the next three to six years.

We will shortly conclude a memorandum of understanding on phase two of the Programme on Management of Living Marine Resource. That project is valued at approximately \$11 million over the next six years, and demonstrates the increasing cooperation between Canada and ASEAN on Environmental Issues, and our common commitment to sustainable development.

The other area of special focus for the Centre has been human resource development, a long-standing area of cooperation between Canada and ASEAN.

Among the initiatives managed by the Centre last year was the organization of a number of short-term training courses in Canada. Last month, twelve ASEAN satellite communications experts participated in a training session held at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology.

We are in the process of planning with the ASEAN Deans of Schools of Graduate Management a long-term programme to upgrade business management training in the region.