

## Chapter 7 Opening Doors to Asia


The Canadian merchandise export mix to Taiwan is broad, including commodity goods and raw materials (e.g., nickel, wood pulp and ores), mineral fuel and oil, semi-processed materials (e.g., hides, paper and paperboard, and wood), and manufacturing inputs and high-value technology products (e.g., plastics and electrical machinery).

Although value-added agricultural exports have increased since Taiwan's WTO accession in 2002, there is continuing domestic pressure for protection, as well as a need to improve the transparency of decision making, particularly with respect to certain agricultural and agri-food products.

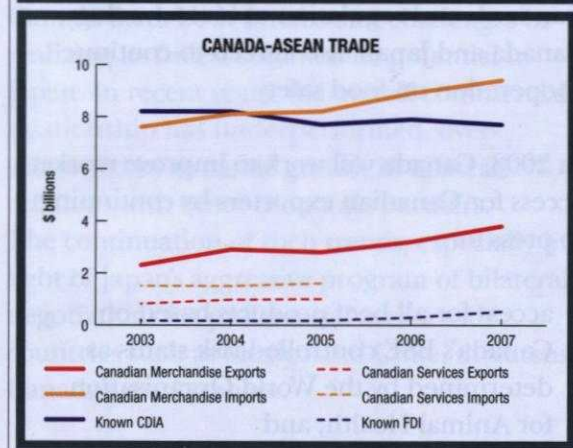
In 2007, Canada and Taiwan signed a new memorandum of understanding (MOU) on investment promotion and renewed two MOUs, one on information and communications technologies and one on science and technology cooperation. These instruments serve to promote ongoing dialogue and lay the foundation for increased collaboration in investment and innovation, two important drivers of Canada's knowledge-based economy.

### Association of Southeast Asian Nations

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN—Brunei Darussalam, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) remains one of the fastest growing economic regions in the world, and its member leaders have agreed to pursue an ASEAN economic community by 2015.

 ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN)		
	2007	Percentage change since 2006 (%)
Population	574.9 million	1.5
GDP	\$1.4 trillion	-
Canadian Merchandise exports	\$3.8 billion	18.9
Canadian Services exports	\$1.0 billion (2005)	-
Canadian Merchandise imports	\$9.4 billion	5.7
Canadian Services imports	\$1.6 billion (2005)	-
Known CDIA	\$7.7 billion	-2.8
Known FDI	\$521 million	78.4

*Note : Services Trade Statistics do not include Brunei Darussalam, Burma, Cambodia and Laos.*



Canada is currently negotiating a trade and investment framework arrangement with the ASEAN member countries, and is exploring bilateral FIPAs with Indonesia and Malaysia. Responding to the recent developments in Burma, Canada has imposed strict sanctions on investment as well as trade in goods and services with that country. Meanwhile, commercial opportunities with other ASEAN members continue to expand. Through the Global Commerce Strategy, Canada has