

Canada hailed the lifting of the ban on Nelson Mandela and other historic reforms enacted in February 1990 and announced new programs of assistance in support of the negotiations in South Africa.

Canada also played a crucial role in the United Nations' settlement plan for Namibian independence. At the independence celebrations on March 21, 1990, Canada announced the opening of a High Commission in Windhoek and the launching of a development assistance program for Namibia.

In the South Pacific region, Canada experienced record-breaking trade levels. For the first time, Canadian exports to Australia exceeded \$1 billion. Many important contracts were won, including those for communications equipment valued at over \$200 million and tunnelling machinery worth \$5 million. Sales of breeding stock and genetic material rose from zero in 1987 to \$11.9 million in 1989.

Mr. Clark provided leadership at the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Conference, where he defused a threatened boycott of the Commonwealth Games in Auckland.

In South Asia, Canada sought to encourage regional stability through economic growth and regional cooperation. Substantial results from increased

marketing efforts included sales of oil, gas and mining equipment, high-technology equipment and training.

In Southeast Asia, Prime Minister Mulroney delivered the prestigious Singapore Lecture in which he announced Canada's Going Global international trade strategy.

A great deal of activity took place in the Region that includes Indochina, Korea and China. The Department took an active role in the Cambodian peace process. In addition, Canada's trade with Korea increased significantly.

Japan has become Canada's largest offshore trading partner with 1989 two-way trade totalling close to \$19 billion. A comprehensive trade promotion program was designed to help Canadians take advantage of this growing market. Japanese direct investment, which now exceeds \$4 billion, is concentrated in the auto industry, pulp and paper, and tourism.

The Department launched "Pacific 2000" as a program to enhance the relationship between Asia-Pacific and Canada. In Japan, for example, a new Science and Technology Fund has been set up to facilitate cooperation in the area of science and technology. Additional trade promotional activities and enhanced language and awareness programs are also funded by this program.