Closing Remarks

Mr. Steve Lee, Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development

Mr. Lee thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the roundtable and provide such a rich discussion. He also asked participants to consider why Canada should be promoting a free media in Asia. He pointed out that the relationship between the media and society is complex, and asked rhetorically, which comes first, free media or a free society. He said that freedom of the media, and of opinion, and of journalists, has to lead somewhere. He acknowledged that many of the options at Canada's disposal for promoting free media were "highly interventionist."

Mr. Lee said that the Centre for Foreign Policy Development was interested in supporting a number of items on the agenda for the People's Summit on APEC. He said that this roundtable fit nicely into Canada's broader foreign policy interests.

Wrap-up

Shauna Sylvester closed the session by thanking the participants, speakers and the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development for their support. She outlined the process for how the ideas raised in the roundtable will be carried forward into the development of the International Symposium. She also said a summary of the discussions will be submitted to the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development and distributed to interested participants.

Special recognition was extended to Paul Baylis for his work in coordinating the roundtable, Tim Draimin for his role as facilitator and Steve Lee for his support.