

Department of External Affairs



Ministère des Affaires extérieures

Canada

CANADA / ASEAN FORUM

September 10-17, 1986

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Department of External Affairs is announcing an initiative to foster improved economic links between Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The Canada/ASEAN Forum brings together 25 private sector representatives from the six ASEAN countries (Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Brunei) and an equal number of Canadian business representatives.

Delegates are drawn from three industry sectors: oil and gas (equipment and services), mineral development (equipment, surveying and services) and telecommunications.

Starting in Victoria, British Columbia, the Forum features a seminar to discuss the policies and priorities of the ASEAN economies, strategies for the creation of more joint ventures, technology exchanges, licensing agreements and ASEAN capital projects of particular interest to Canadian industry.

After conclusion of the seminar, ASEAN participants will attend the annual meeting of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Vancouver, September 13-14. The Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, is giving the keynote address at this meeting.

Following a visit to EXPO 86, the ASEAN delegates separate on September 15 into three groups according to their industrial interests. These three groups will visit Canadian companies in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario. The tours have been organized by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Department of External Affairs, Canadian trade associations and private companies.

The Forum underlines the importance given by the Government to expanding market opportunities in the Pacific Rim area.