

STATEMENT DISCOURS

SECRETARY
OF STATE
FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS.

SECRÉTAIRE
D'ÉTAT AUX
AFFAIRES
EXTÉRIEURES.



86/41

NOTES FOR A STATEMENT BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
JOE CLARK, FOR DELIVERY AT
THE ASEAN SIX PLUS ONE*
MEETING.

*BILATERAL MEETING WITH THE
SIX ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS.

MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES
JUNE 26, 1986

COLLEAGUES,

I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE WITH YOU HERE AGAIN AT THE ANNUAL ASEAN POST MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE.

I OFFER MY CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HOST, THE VICE PRESIDENT, MR. SALVADOR LAUREL. I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK HIM AND HIS MINISTRY FOR THE EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS THEY HAVE MADE FOR THE CONFERENCE AT A TIME WHEN HIS GOVERNMENT IS SO PREOCCUPIED WITH OTHER PRESSING MATTERS.

I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THAILAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTIVE AND EFFICIENT MANNER WITH WHICH THEY HAVE TAKEN ON THE ROLE OF COORDINATING PARTNER FOR CANADA'S DIALOGUE RELATIONSHIP WITH ASEAN.

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CANADA IS A FEDERAL STATE, AND BOTH THE NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS WANT TO EXPAND TRADE. FOR THAT REASON I AM ACCOMPANIED HERE TODAY BY THE HONOURABLE BOB ANDREW, MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE OF THE PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN.

LAST YEAR I INVITED YOU TO COME TO CANADA FOR EXPO 86. YOU ACCEPTED AND WE ARE ALL DELIGHTED BY THE RESULTS. YOUR PAVILIONS ARE SOME OF THE POPULAR HIGHLIGHTS OF THE EXPOSITION. I AM DELIGHTED BECAUSE I HOPE IT WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ASEAN TO KNOW CANADA BETTER, PARTICULARLY OUR WESTERN PROVINCES, WHENCE COMES SO MUCH OF THE INTEREST IN YOUR REGION --AND THAT IT WILL MAKE YOUR COUNTRIES AND YOUR PRODUCTS BETTER KNOWN TO THE EXPECTED TWENTY MILLION PEOPLE WHO WILL VISIT THE SITE AND THE MILLIONS MORE WHO WILL READ OF THE SHOW AND SEE IT ON TELEVISION.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH EXPO, WE WILL BE CONVENING THE CANADA-ASEAN FORUM IN BOTH VICTORIA AND VANCOUVER. THIS CANADIAN INITIATIVE IS INTENDED TO BRING TOGETHER SENIOR BUSINESSMEN TO LOOK AT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR INCREASED COOPERATION THROUGH JOINT VENTURES. WE WILL BE TOUCHING ON THIS SUBJECT LATER ON IN OUR DELIBERATIONS.

BEFORE MOVING ON TO THE VARIOUS AGENDA ITEMS BEFORE US, I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK OF INCREASED TRADE, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT.

CANADA AND THE MEMBER STATES OF ASEAN ARE TRADING NATIONS. WE BOTH RELY HEAVILY ON A TWO-WAY FLOW OF GOODS AND SERVICES AS AN IMPORTANT UNDERPINNING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. WE HAVE BOTH OBSERVED IN THE PAST THAT CANADA-ASEAN TRADE IS RELATIVELY MODEST AND THAT THERE IS SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL FOR TWO-WAY GROWTH. WE WANT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS POTENTIAL.

AS A RESULT OF MY GOVERNMENT'S INCREASED FOCUS ON THE ASIA/PACIFIC REGION, CANADIAN MINISTERS AND BUSINESSMEN ARE INCREASINGLY FREQUENT VISITORS TO ASEAN. I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THIS TREND IS NOT ONE WAY--INDEED, WE HAVE WELCOMED THE THAI MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, THE INDONESIAN TRADE MINISTER AND A SENIOR DELEGATION OF SINGAPORE TRADE OFFICIALS IN THE LAST COUPLE OF MONTHS. EARLIER IN JUNE, BOTH THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS OF THE PHILIPPINES VISITED CANADA AND EXPO 86. I HOPE THE INCREASE IN THIS TWO-WAY TRAFFIC WILL CONTINUE.

YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED FOR PARTICULAR EMPHASIS, ENHANCED COOPERATION INVOLVING INVESTMENT THROUGH JOINT VENTURES, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND AN INCREASED MARKET PRESENCE IN CANADA. WITH

THE HELP OF THE CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION PROGRAM, A NUMBER OF CANADIAN COMPANIES HAVE ESTABLISHED AND OTHERS ARE LOOKING TO ESTABLISH OPERATIONS IN ASEAN. WE REGARD THIS AS AN IMPORTANT ONGOING CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE FACILITATION OF INVESTMENT AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY.

WE INTEND TO DO MORE IN THE AREA OF COMMERCIAL COOPERATION AND INVESTMENT PROMOTION. IN RESPONSE TO EARLIER ASEAN REQUESTS WE PROPOSE TO ESTABLISH A FUND SPECIFICALLY ALLOCATED TO ASEAN TO ORGANIZE MARKETING SEMINARS AND TO FUND INCOMING TRADE MISSIONS. WE ARE ALSO LOOKING AT WAYS OF INCREASING AWARENESS WITHIN THE CANADIAN PRIVATE SECTOR OF BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN ASEAN COUNTRIES, FOR EXAMPLE, BY PRODUCING PUBLICATIONS ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES HERE. WE WILL WORK MORE VIGOROUSLY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ENCOURAGE GREATER TWO-WAY TRADE AND INVESTMENT. THE CANADA-ASEAN FORUM IN CANADA IN SEPTEMBER WILL ALSO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN THIS AREA.

WE ARE ALSO LOOKING AT HOW WE COULD DEVELOP A TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY MECHANISM. THIS COULD POSSIBLY BE IN THE FORM OF A LINE OF CREDIT THAT WOULD PROMOTE INVESTMENT IN, AND STIMULATE TRANSFER OF, TECHNOLOGY TO ASEAN COUNTRIES AND AT THE SAME TIME WOULD MOBILIZE BUSINESS INTEREST WITHIN

ASEAN TOWARDS CANADA.

I AM PLEASED TO LEARN THAT OUR RESPECTIVE PRIVATE SECTORS HAVE AGREED TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING SOME FORM OF FORMAL LINKS WITH ONE ANOTHER THROUGH THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (CCC) AND THE ASEAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (ASEAN-CCI). THAT IS AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD. DIRECT BUSINESS CONTACTS BUILD BETTER COMMERCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

MR. CHAIRMAN, A COUNTRY'S MOST PRECIOUS ASSETS ARE ITS PEOPLE. CANADA RECOGNIZES THE TREMENDOUS IMPORTANCE ASEAN GOVERNMENTS HAVE ASSIGNED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR HUMAN RESOURCES. CIDA IN ITS PROGRAMS IS PARTICULARLY SUPPORTIVE OF ACTIVITIES THAT ASSIST WOMEN IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. A CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF OUR EXISTING DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WITH ASEAN ON A REGIONAL BASIS FOCUSES ON HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE LOOKING AT A NUMBER OF POSSIBILITIES WHICH WE HOPE WILL CONSTITUTE AN INNOVATIVE RESPONSE TO ASEAN INTERESTS AND WHICH WOULD RESULT IN A GREATER CANADIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THIS VITAL AREA.

MY SENIOR OFFICIALS WILL BE APPROACHING THEIR ASEAN COUNTERPARTS OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS TO ELABORATE AND DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS.

ONE OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF CANADA IS THAT WE DRAW OUR CITIZENS FROM ALL THE WORLD. MANY OF THE MOST ACTIVE CANADIANS WERE BORN IN YOUR COUNTRIES, AND MAINTAIN AN ACTIVE CONNECTION WITH YOUR CULTURES AND COMMUNITIES. IN ALMOST EVERY PART OF CANADA, YOU FIND A LITTLE BIT OF SOUTHEAST ASIA. MORE OF OUR CITIZENS -- TOURISTS, BUSINESS-PERSONS, PARLIAMENTARIANS -- ARE COMING TO KNOW YOUR COUNTRIES. SO OUR LINKS ARE DEEPLY PERSONAL, AS WELL AS COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL.

YOU HAVE OTHER INTERESTS IN THE WORLD THAN CANADA, AND WE MAINTAIN AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN ALL COUNTRIES, ALL CONTINENTS. BUT THERE IS A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO BUILD ON OUR RELATIONS WITH THE NATIONS OF ASEAN. WE SHARE A COMMON VIEW ON BASIC QUESTIONS -- ABOUT DEVELOPMENT, ABOUT ECONOMIC GROWTH, ABOUT THE ESSENTIAL INDEPENDENCE OF SOVEREIGN NATIONS. WE HAVE A LOT IN COMMON AND A SHARED DETERMINATION TO BUILD ON THAT BEGINNING.