

We should also ensure that the particular problems of low-income countries are not overshadowed.

Canada has always attached the greatest importance to the quality of development assistance. It is of course necessary to maintain and if possible to improve our performance with respect to aid volume. Given the changing perspectives of the developing world, we should also intensify our reflection on the appropriate forms of aid to render it more compatible with their differing needs. I would like in this regard to acknowledge the leading role of the OECD Development Assistance Committee in elucidating the problems of aid effectiveness and aid coordination. Canada has been an ardent promoter of better coordination among donors and has given strong support to the work of the World Bank's consultative groups, and to the central role of the United Nations Development Programme. We are pleased with recent progress in this area which has greatly enhanced the effectiveness of both the emergency operations in Africa and longer term development efforts.

The African famine constitutes one of the great tragedies of our times. The extent of its impact on the populations of sub-Saharan Africa is staggering. More than 30 million people in twenty countries face serious food shortages. The generous response of our societies, not only of governments but of private individuals and the voluntary sector, has been encouraging and often inspiring. The international community, with strong leadership from the United Nations, has demonstrated a remarkable capacity to mobilize to meet the challenge of the relief operation. All of us realize that this is only the beginning. The further challenge will be to promote effective development to prevent such situations from recurring. The key is of course how to foster effective mobilization of resources in developing countries themselves. With the World Bank's \$1 billion special facility for sub-Saharan Africa linked to policy reform I think we are on the right track. We should be clear from the start that dealing with the African development problem will require an important long term commitment. For its part, in fiscal year 1985-86, Canada will be providing aid to Africa, through all channels, of more than Canadian \$650 million, not counting the \$100 million over three years it has pledged to the World Bank's special facility for sub-Saharan Africa.

The international community's response to the African crisis should provide us with inspiration. Fortunately the situation is not as dramatic on all the