

supported the UN peace efforts in Afghanistan, which it continues to view as the best mechanism for achieving peace. In August, the UN requested several countries, including Canada, to provide trained diplomats to assist the peace efforts of UN Envoy, Mahmoud Mestiri. Canada has provided an officer from DFAIT on secondment.

Canada disbursed or pledged a total of \$16.9 million for humanitarian assistance to the Afghan peoples through the UN and other international organizations in 1994. Some of these funds are directed to assist refugees from the Afghanistan conflict. This represents a substantial contribution for a country with no bilateral program.

The mandate of the UN Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Afghanistan was extended for one year by the CHR during its last session. The CHR will consider the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur who will be reporting at its next session. The mandate of the Special Rapporteur will likely be extended again this year, in view of the total lack of progress in the human rights situation.