

* With the same objective in mind, I am pleased to announce that the Minister of Finance is advising the President of the World Bank that Canada will contribute \$100 million over the next 4 years to the World Bank's Voluntary Special Facility for Sub-Saharan Africa. This is an entirely new initiative taken by the World Bank, to supplement their regular programme in Africa, and is designed to support the efforts of African Governments in undertaking policy and institutional reforms to develop their own agricultural production. So far, in direct and supplementary contributions, the donor countries, including Canada, have pledged approximately \$1 billion (US) to this special facility.

The heartening response by Canadians has been a lesson about sacrifice and generosity to all of us. This Parliament can be proud of its quick response to unparalleled suffering - but we should be more proud and gratified with the response of thousands of individuals and groups across this country. The suffering in Africa is far from over, and I look forward to working with other Members of this House in developing means to express our continuing concern and commitment to bring relief to that devastated region.