THE ZAYED BIN SULTAN AL NAHAYAN CHARITABLE AND HUMANITARIAN FOUNDATION

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The Foundation was established four years ago on a personal initiative by Emir Zayed, Head of State of the U.A.E., for charitable purposes. It finances small and medium-sized projects such as mosques, cultural centers, food aid, hospitals, medicines, equipment for the handicapped, etc. The Foundation cooperates with the Red Cross, NGOs, and the HCR in their humanitarian work.

The Zayed Foundation has a capital of \$1 billion of which about a third is paid up.

There are normally no restrictions regarding the beneficiaries as long as the project serves a humanitarian purpose. NGOs or consultants working in a humanitarian field could suggest to a potential beneficiary country that it approach the Foundation. The same applies for suppliers. Examples of assistance provided are medicines to Iraq and Bosnia, tents for refugees, foodstuffs for Iranian refugees, etc. Projects are normally decided by the Emir.

The Foundation, in principle, can accept proposals by Canadian NGOS. At first glance, there are few direct business opportunities for Canadian firms but as the Foundation is relatively new, it might eventually adopt new assistance approaches where it may purchase medicines and foodstuffs itself and have them shipped directly to the beneficiaries. Project proposals should be directed to the Director General at the above-mentioned address.

Leopold Battel/TBF January 1998

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