Atlantic Region — November 26-30, 1985

Forum Africa in the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island was organized through working groups at the local community level. Meetings took place over a period of four days and in a variety of forms which included conferences, workshops, public meetings, as well as teleconferencing and informal "get togethers" in private homes. Staffing differed from other regions. Local persons worked part time out of the Extension Department of St Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia and from Femme en Focus and Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) in New Brunswick. Local community working groups developed their own programs and schedule of activities without the help of a provincial or a regional working group. The Acadian community in New Brunswick was the exception. Different villages and towns cooperated closely to develop their program of activities.

To be flexible and allow the greatest possible access, video tapes in French and English were prepared to stimulate discussions on the famine. These tapes were sent to the Acadian communities in Edmunston, Caraquet, Bathurst and Campbellton in New Brunswick and to Sydney and Port Hawkesbury in Cape Breton.

A third and fourth program were broadcast Saturday morning and afternoon through Atlantic Satellite Network (ASN) which has a potential audience of 70 percent in the three Maritime provinces. The morning program featured a panel of Canadian and African experts discussing the causes of the famine in Africa, Canada's response and future role in supporting recovery and development. In the afternoon, program panelists responded to callers from the region. The panelists were John Godfrey of Ethiopia Airlift, Nigel Martin of the Canadian Council for International Cooperation, Ahmed Mohiddin of the International Development Information Program at Carleton University, Gloria Nikoi and Amon Nikoi from the Centre for African Studies at Dalhousie University and Pierre Racicot of CIDA with David MacDonald as moderator.

New Brunswick: In *Moncton*, Mayor George Rideout, CCODP and CN Marine were instrumental in providing advance promotion and support for the event and organizing a conference at the community college. The mayor's office was particularly effective in organizing media coverage. In Moncton, the Canadian Emergency Coordinator visited four high schools and spoke to thousands of students.