



Trade and Economic Issues

- 7.1 Canada should cancel all bilateral debts and advocate the cancellation of all multilateral debts being held by the IMF, the World Bank, and Regional Development Banks.
- 7.2 Canada should continue to apply diplomatic pressure while entering into strategic alliances to counter drastic measures imposed by the Bretton Woods institutions such as the IMF.
- 7.3 Canada should improve market access for African goods and press other developed countries to open their markets to African goods.
- 7.4 Canada should lower or eliminate all trade barriers.
- 7.5 As an alternative to market access, Canada should introduce preferred tariff treatment, while granting developing countries greater flexibility.
- 7.6 Canada should not make trade liberalization a necessary condition for aid; African countries should be allowed to retain the option of strategic trade policy.
- 7.7 Canada should not blindly support export promotion programs. Rather, the Canadian government should evaluate the distributional impacts of these economic programs. In particular, evaluations must be carried out on the impact of improved market access on the poor and other disadvantaged groups such as women.
- 7.8 Canada must set an example and play a leadership role in establishing trade policy guidelines, in the WTO and in its international development decisions, in order to ensure respect for human rights, health and education.
- 7.9 Canada must assume an international leadership role in fostering an environment of corporate social responsibility. This could be accomplished through a combination of any of the following: public education through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA); an export tax on undesirable trade commodities (e.g. weapons); and tax or grant incentives to companies that are accountable and responsible in the global marketplace.
- 7.10 Canada should develop enforceable codes of conduct for Canadian companies that operate in Africa to prevent human rights violations by Canadian companies.
- 7.11 Independent monitoring of corporate activities should be instituted to ensure that Canadian companies comply with human rights standards. To this end, the Canadian government should partner with non-governmental civil society organizations in Africa to ensure the effective monitoring of Canadian corporations.
- 7.12 Loan guarantees and funding from the Export Development Corporation should be contingent on meeting human rights standards.
- 7.13 Canada should assist African states with export development.