

## Recommendations

The North Korean economy is in collapse and there is a dire shortage of food. Canadians are already involved and seen to be involved. This situation has presented a "compassionate window of opportunity" for Canadian agencies to gain information about and access to North Korean society.

1. Canada should pursue two levels of contact with North Korea:

- A) At the **"working level"**. This would include groups such as members of NGOs, as well as technocrats (particularly in the fields of agriculture and energy), and academics; and
- B) At the **higher policy level** - this could be done via official diplomatic recognition of North Korea by Canada. Parallels to such a situation can be found in our relationships with both China and Cuba

It is thought that these contacts may bear fruit insofar as Canada has some social and economic similarities with North Korea. These include the belief that there is (however limited) a social and economic role for the state.

- 2. Canada should work toward the establishment of a Peace Treaty with North Korea. The current situation is psychologically damaging to relations at both levels of contact.
- 3. More exchanges are needed between Canada and North Korea. To facilitate such exchanges two things are necessary: 1. Access to visas for participants; and 2. Funding from DFAIT. These would go a long way toward opening the lines of communication between the two countries.
- 4. CADO funding must be renewed. This is important for both the North Korean economy and for the maintenance of Canada's international reputation in South East Asia.
- 5. CIDA funds should be freed up for use in North Korea. This would help with both the food aid and infrastructure components.
- 6. An information linkage is important to perpetuate the flow of information with regard to North Korea. The establishment of an Internet site would be very useful in establishing communication links with other countries.