

Summary of Policy Recommendations

Canada should introduce the subject of Burma as a general discussion agenda item in the UN Security Council.

Canada should initiate a discussion about the humanitarian crisis in Burma with the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Canada should request the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene a UN interagency meeting to consider the crisis in Burma.

Canada should seek to formalize the existing Burma informal consultative mechanism of the UN Secretary General and promote it as a forum for the coordination of international policy and strategy.

The Minister should proceed to impose investment sanctions under the Special Economic Measures Act. If the Minister determines that he cannot proceed under SEMA, he should enact a special statute tailored to the particular situation of Burma.

The Canadian Government should amend the Income Tax Act to bar Canadian companies operating in Burma from deducting any of their foreign business income tax from their Canadian taxes.

The Minister should introduce a motion in Parliament that the Parliament of Canada officially recognize the Committee Representing the People's Parliament as representative of the elected Parliament of Burma.

The Ministers of DFAIT and CIDA should create the necessary framework to enable CIDA to support capacity-building activities with Burma's democratic movement.

Representatives of CIDA, DFAIT and Canadian NGOs should meet as soon as possible to discuss a capacity-building framework and strategy to support Burma's democracy movement.

In 1999-00, CIDA should designate planning funds to an NGO coalition to investigate capacity-building needs and modalities of support for the democracy movement.