

disabled people accepted their responsibilities as citizens and influenced changes in government and approaches to disability services. Government provided substantial resources through the disabled persons participation program to recognize the important role of disability organizations in the voice of disabled people. As the UN Decade drew to a close, disability increasingly became of lesser importance, received lesser priority in government funding and policy direction within Canada. Rather than arguing their case for inclusion on a rights basis within Canadian society the disability movement began to look at strategic initiatives. The language changed from one of human rights and national standards to one of practical achievements and what was doable. This is also reflected in Canada's role internationally. Where Canada played a very active role within the United Nations in promoting disability issues in the nineties after the end of the Decade in 1992 there was very little evidence that Canada played any significant role till the end of the century. There is evidence at the present time, the beginning of the 21st century that this is beginning to change again. Canada has played a role in getting the World Bank to include disability issues and is becoming more active in other international initiatives again.

As has been pointed out in some of the previous analysis the human rights framework that Canada has developed around disability issues in Canada have had limited impact on Canadian foreign policy. Examples of this include strategies around supporting landmine survivors, where the focus became one of focusing on practical issues rather than broader human rights initiatives. While Canada has developed a framework for promoting human rights within CIDA, this has to date yet had very little impact on the issues of disabled people. In fact disabled people have not been included in any kind of significant way in CIDA's human rights strategies.

Another obvious weakness is that CIDA still does not have any strategic initiative for including disability issues. While CIDA has human rights strategies and poverty reduction strategies which all have great relevance for disabled people as has been identified over and over in this book, disabled people have not yet been systematically included in these overall strategies. CIDA to date does not have an overall policy to include disabled people as they do around women's issues. In contrast many other countries including the Scandinavian countries, the United States and even Britain have developed overall policies for including disability in their international aid policies or have begun to develop this strategy. Clearly this is one of the glaring weaknesses that still exist within Canada.

In Canada there have been clearly established policies and guidelines for universal design and accessibility of buildings, facilities and communications to include people with disabilities. This strategy to date has had very little impact on Canada's work internationally, either through funding initiatives or in situations such as making Canadian Embassies accessible or making information available in alternate media through Canadian Embassies about Canada.

In many other countries the donor agencies have seen the benefit of targeting funds for specific disability work internationally. In Sweden, SHEA has been