

Mr. Secretary-General, in the past year Canada has contributed \$8.5 million in emergency food aid to respond to this situation. We have recently provided a \$1 million contribution to the ICRC's All-Africa Programme for 1981; we have given grants totalling \$475,000 to two United Nations' institutions providing educational assistance to Southern African refugees, the Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, and the Institute for Namibia. I might note that we intend to continue to support these programmes. We have increased our contribution to the UNHCR's regular budget to \$4 million this year, in part to respond to increased requirements for African programmes. Most recently, at the Zimbabwe Conference on Reconstruction and Development, we announced a Canadian commitment of \$50 million over five years. Within this commitment, a sum of \$3.5 million has been identified to support the integration of refugees.

Turning to the immediate future, I am pleased to announce today, subject to parliamentary and Treasury Board approval, that in 1981 Canada will contribute over Canadian \$22.4 million to help meet the needs which have been identified by this conference. Of this amount, \$16 million will be provided in emergency food aid to countries where the refugee problem is most acute namely, Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda, and \$6.4 million in grants to be directed to programmes of different international agencies designed to respond to the highest priority refugee needs.

Mr. Secretary-General, we recognize the important role which is being played by Canadian and international non-governmental organizations in assisting refugees in Africa. We wish to encourage their active participation and therefore plan to continue providing matching grants for their projects.

Mr. Secretary-General, I have made a major commitment by Canada to Africa; other countries will no doubt do the same. I am looking for an equally important commitment from African countries to the international community. We are responding to an African problem to which solutions can only be found in Africa, by Africans. We are responding to pressing humanitarian needs. It is for Africans to respond to the causes of those needs.

But if enormous sums must be devoted by African countries and by the international community to caring for increasing numbers of refugees, over time it will be to the profound detriment of important African development objectives. Moreover, to condemn millions of Africans to years or a lifetime of rootless deprivation as refugees is an intolerable human prospect. The root causes of the massive movements of