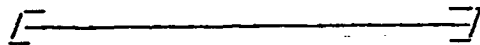


In conclusion may I restate the basic principles which have guided the Canadian Government's policy in this matter and which will continue to guide that policy:

1. The Government will continue to provide assistance generously to meet the needs of the people of Nigeria as a whole.
2. We will maintain close liaison with the legitimate government of Nigeria in order to provide relief to the population under its control.
3. We will continue to urge the secessionist authorities to co-operate in arrangements acceptable to the Nigerian Government for the relief of the population under rebel control.
4. The Government will be ready, when this tragic conflict is over, to co-operate with the Nigerian Government in the important tasks of reconstruction and rehabilitation it will face.
5. We will work toward a better international legal framework within which humanitarian assistance can be provided to people affected by civil conflict.
6. The Government will not violate international law by supporting or endorsing any move, bilateral or multilateral, which will constitute intervention in Nigerian internal affairs.
7. We will continue to call upon both sides in the conflict to negotiate their differences.
8. The Government will vigorously support any conciliation effort which may develop under the auspices of the OAU, the Commonwealth Secretariat or any other body acceptable to the parties.
9. We will stand ready to assist, if so desired by both parties, in promoting a negotiated settlement.



*On conclusion of this statement, the following exchange took place:*

Mr. Stanfield: The Minister indicated he would answer questions when he had finished. I wonder whether he would indicate what he meant when he said this Government would establish a better international framework to deal with civil conflicts, and whether he would indicate when he proposes to start on this, if not tomorrow?

CHCD - SSEN SHARP - Nov 26, 1969  
SS 68/20  
DIAFRA