

is the first case in point. We will be careful to ensure that these actions lead to a significant developmental impact.

Canada has recently agreed to support proposals that the IDB use some of its funds to support multilateral debt reduction in close co-ordination with the IMF and the World Bank, while ensuring the IDB develops the capacity to manage these complex transactions.

Other

The Government is examining possibilities for the expansion of a debt-management project, initially developed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) with the Commonwealth Secretariat, to include non-Commonwealth nations. CIDA and IDRC will explore ways to adapt the program to non-English-speaking countries and provide hardware, training and specialized software to allow developing countries to improve the management of their commitments and cashflow.

Sound fiscal and monetary management in Canada will support efforts of the debt-distressed countries because lower foreign borrowing (Canadians borrowed C\$20 billion abroad last year) will increase the amount of international capital available to debtors.

Conclusion

Canada's concern for the problems of the developing countries burdened with debts is not only for humanitarian reasons. Economically healthy and vibrant developing countries will be stronger partners in our interdependent world. Their economic growth will create new opportunities for Canadian exports and investment which will create jobs in Canada. Development will help reduce regional tensions and promote peace and stability.