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CANADA PROVIDES \$3.75 MILLION IN RELIEF FOR KAMPUCHEAN PEOPLE

Canada will contribute \$3.75 million in grants for the 1981 Kampuchean relief operations which provide for the essential needs of hundreds of thousands of Kampuchean refugees, said today Dr. Mark MacGuigan, Secretary of State for External Affairs. The grant was announced at the Special Session of the UNICEF*Executive Board held in New York January 22 and 23.

The funds come from the Canadian International Development Agency's (CIDA) humanitarian, emergency and refugee relief budget, and will be channelled through UNICEF, which is co-ordinating relief operations in the region.

The grant will aid Kampuchean refugees in refugee camps in Thailand, those along the Thai-Kampuchean border, Kampucheans still in Kampuchea and Thai villagers who are affected by the situation.

Canada first made a commitment to contribute substantially to the 1981 Kampuchean relief operations at the United Nations' pledging conference held on December 10 last year. Firm pledges from other donors at that conference and other pledges made to date total about \$100 million, towards a target of \$235 million.

Canada provided \$15 million in cash and food aid in 1979-80 to support relief for the Kampuchean people by UNICEF, the Red Cross and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. In 1980-81, Canada gave \$1.8 million to help finance various efforts by the Red Cross and Canadian voluntary organizations, including World Vision of Canada, Canadian University Service Overseas, the Mennonite Central Committee, the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, and Oxfam Quebec.

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* United Nations Children's Fund