

5.18 The Committee recommends the establishment of broader-based consultations on development co-operation, including the participation of Parliamentarians.

Response

The Government agrees with this recommendation. A wide range of partners inside and outside Canada play a vital role in Canada's ODA program. Their contribution is essential to providing the range of expertise, knowledge and resources required to meet diverse challenges of development.

To succeed, development assistance must be a collective endeavour, and this requires a corresponding commitment to information sharing and ongoing consultation.

A broad range of consultations are held each year with CIDA's partners including development NGOs, business associations, universities and colleges, and environmental groups. A schedule of consultations is prepared and published on a regular basis. The Government will also work to strengthen its consultative process on development co-operation. This will include future meetings of the National Forum on Canada's International Relations.