

Act, to freeze any Canadian assets of President Milosevic and his four co-indicted FRY government officials.

Other support: In March 1999, Canada successfully expanded the OSCE Kosovo Verification Force's mandate to include information gathering from Kosovo refugees on human rights violations by FRY forces. Six RCMP officers were among those gathering evidence in Albania. This information was passed to the ICTY for possible use in future prosecutions.

In June 1999, in response to requests from the ICTY, Minister Axworthy announced Canada's willingness to provide intelligence information support to the ICTY.

Also in June 1999, Canada was one of the first countries to provide a team of forensic experts to carry out crime scene analyses in Kosovo, in support of the work of the ICTY. Funding for this initiative (\$0.5 million) was approved by CIDA through the Canadian Police Arrangement. Canada has subsequently provided a second team upon the completion of the mandate of the first team.

b) International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

Background: The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR or "the Rwanda Tribunal") was established by UN Security Council Resolution 955 (1994) to bring to justice the architects of the genocide that occurred in Rwanda in 1994, claiming almost a million lives (mainly Tutsis with some moderate Hutus). The Tribunal itself (the Chambers and Registry) is based in Arusha, Tanzania, whereas the Office of the Prosecutor, headed by the Deputy Prosecutor, is in Kigali, Rwanda. The ICTR and the ICTY share the same Appeals Chamber as well as the same Chief Prosecutor. A second courtroom was added in April 1998 and a third panel of judges was sworn in in May 1999. The 1999 budget of the ICTR is US\$68.5 million, with 667 persons on staff.

Leadership: In June 1999, Judge Navanethem Pillay (South Africa) was unanimously elected by her peers as President of the Tribunal for a mandate of two years. Madame Justice Louise Arbour served as Chief Prosecutor until September 15, 1999, when she assumed a seat on the Supreme Court of Canada. On the recommendation of the Secretary General, the Security Council appointed Carla Del Ponte of Switzerland to assume office on September 15, 1999.

Arrests: The ICTR has been successful in obtaining custody over high-ranking leaders indicted for the most serious crimes, through numerous high-profile arrests in several African and European countries. The Tribunal now has 38 out of 48 indicted persons in custody, including one detained in Texas, USA.

Convictions: Jean Kambanda, the former Prime Minister of the Interim Government of Rwanda, pleaded guilty to genocide and crimes against humanity in May 1998, and was sentenced to life imprisonment in September 1998. That same month, Jean Paul Akayesu, a former mayor of Taba, was found guilty of genocide and crimes against humanity and sentenced to life imprisonment. These precedent-setting cases mark a major step in the battle against impunity. The *Akayesu* decision provides a judicial interpretation of the crime of genocide (defined in the 1948 Genocide Convention) and affirms that sexual violence can in certain circumstances constitute an act of genocide. The ICTR has completed other important trials, including the conviction of Omar Serushago for genocide and crimes against humanity, and Clement Kayishema and Obed Ruzindana