



group proposed that Canada take further action (through more scholarship and exchange programs) to ensure that potential African leaders are able to study in Canada in order to transfer education and skills to their home countries. This would include formal university training and co-op programs. Others suggested that a capacity building institute for Africans should be created in Canada. However, a contrary opinion was that Canada could better contribute to Africans' educational needs by bringing skilled Canadians to Africa to build capacities at the ground level there. Several initiatives were proposed to this effect, including faculty and professional exchanges and youth programs emphasizing cross-cultural understanding. In order to better assist in aid and development efforts, it was strongly recommended that Canada develop a resource bank of qualified people, starting with National Forum participants. At the international level, participants noted that Canada could provide technical training and assistance to African countries at WTO negotiations and other international fora.

Bringing Health and Well-being to the Forefront

Overall, Canada should pursue a hierarchy of basic needs supported by a strong education commitment. Within this hierarchy, participants noted, health care should be a high priority, including: research and development on African diseases such as Malaria and Tuberculosis; ensuring that affordable medication (especially HIV/AIDS treatment) is available to the majority of Africans, particularly pregnant women; and focussing on the alleviation of HIV/AIDS as a policy priority in its own right. In order to achieve Canada's health care goals, education programs must be instituted for the prevention of the spread of HIV/AIDS as well as appropriate technology transfers. In addition, others noted that exchange programs should be established between African and Canadian doctors for a mutually beneficial capacity building effort. Other issues high on Canada's priorities should include: implementation of labour standards as articulated by the International Labour Organization (ILO); a concerted effort to promote children's rights

If we do not have the solutions, then what do we have for Africa? Well, money alone, as we have seen, is not the solution. I would propose that it is information, so that Africa can define its own solutions...our aim is not to achieve short-term, unsustainable gains in outcomes, but to enable African governments to plan, prioritize, define locally appropriate strategies based on global evidence, and demand and allocate internal and external resources effectively.

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