

3.0 ISSUES AND RECOMMENDED POLICY OPTIONS

The immediate output of the meeting and discussions held with individuals unable to come to the meeting was to present to CPC recommendations leading to policy options to assist the Government of Canada in formulating the G8 Africa Action Plan and ongoing policy development at DFAIT, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and other government departments.

To facilitate easy understanding of the issues raised and the policy or action recommended, this information is presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Canada Africa Trade and Investment Issues and Policy Options

Issue	Policy Options/Recommendations
<p>1. General Policy Framework[∇]</p> <p>(a) There is no umbrella foreign policy between Canada and Africa or a specific agency or division in the Government of Canada coordinating preparation and implementation of policies on Africa. By default, the international development policies are set by CIDA rather than as part of Canada's Foreign Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Delegate the Africa Branch at DFAIT with the responsibility to prepare, based on the consultations held in 2002 by CPC and the G8 Summit Office, an umbrella foreign policy between Canada and Africa and between Canada and the individual countries in Africa. This can be developed building on the Africa Trade Strategy 2002, the existing bilateral trade treaties and the bilateral country program strategies of CIDA. ▪ Canada's new foreign policy for Africa and the individual countries in Africa should focus on the implementation of the NEPAD principles linking economic development, trade, financing and investment to reducing poverty levels. This is recommended as a priority to include in Canada's Africa Action Plan.
<p>2. Trade</p> <p>(a) Canada-Africa Trade: Canada's history, language, capabilities, products and services are well-matched to the needs of the regions and countries in Africa. Return on investment of African projects is high.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Canada's trade policies should be both by country and by geographic region as the geo-political and socio-cultural realities differ in each market in every African country. Pan-African policies have resulted in negative perceptions by sophisticated Canadian business to entering country or regional markets in Africa.
<p>(b) Trade and Investment Cooperation Agreements (TICA)[∇]</p>	<p>Canada only has one TICA in Africa, which is with South Africa. With the upcoming G8 it is recommended Canada pledge to put in place TICAs with other African countries which have growing economies and governments that are moving toward democratic and transparent governance systems. This action could be one of the pillars of Canada's Action Plan.</p>

[∇] contribution from CAABWA's policy research