

aid to Africa: In Addis Ababa, Geneva, Rome, Ottawa, New York and Paris during the original mandate period, the Coordinator met with representatives of donor countries and international organizations. The importance of maintaining close and cooperative relations with the various agencies has been crucial in determining what aid is needed and when and how it is delivered.

The Canadian Emergency Coordinator and his office have been able to function in unique ways in response to the African famine crisis. It became clear, during the mandate, that the following were essential ingredients in the role the Coordinator had been asked to fulfill:

- *The direct relationship between the Office of the Coordinator and the Ministers responsible.* Discussions occurred on a regular basis.
- *The capacity for the Coordinator to engage in public discussions with the media, as required.* This has been a role that has been more visible than is usual for a government agency and has led to a direct relationship with the media.
- *The opportunity to relate quickly and directly with various levels of the agencies and departments of government.* The Office of the Coordinator has worked in ways to overcome the limitations of the somewhat "vertical" structures that exist in government towards a more "horizontal" or integrated approach to challenges and problems. Another way of expressing this is that the Coordinator was able, often, to get a more coordinated response from the various resources within agencies and departments by linking them in creative ways.
- *The extraordinary cooperation we received in staffing and support of our office from the Canadian International Development Agency, the Department of External Affairs, the Department of National Defence, the International Development Research Centre, Emergency Planning Canada, Petro Canada and Algonquin College.*

How Can I Help?

In many ways. We've prepared the following list of Canadian agencies and organizations responding directly to the African Famine Crisis. All of them will provide you with an income tax receipt for any financial contribution you make to them. Some organizations will discuss with you possible donations of goods, materials and supplies. A few are also seeking volunteers or staff to work on relief and development projects in Africa, and we've also shown these on the list.