

CARRIED OUT ITS DUTIES WITH ADMIRABLE RESULTS, UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THE FEDERAL CO-ORDINATOR, DAVID MACDONALD, TO WHOM I PAY HOMMAGE THIS AFTERNOON.

BUT RELIEVING THE VICTIMS OF THE FAMINE WAS JUST THE BEGINNING.

LAST SEPTEMBER 4TH, IN OTTAWA, I REMINDED CANADIANS THAT "WHAT HAPPENED IN AFRICA MUST NOT HAPPEN AGAIN. ON THAT DAY I LAUNCHED FORUM AFRICA, WHICH REPRESENTED THE SECOND PHASE OF THE MANDATE OF DAVID MACDONALD.

THE AFRICAN PEOPLES STILL LIVE WITH THE DANGER. WE HAVE TO KNOW THAT, AND WE MUST KEEP REPEATING IT. AND THAT IS THE MAIN REASON FOR THIS SERIES OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS ORGANIZED JOINTLY BY LOCAL AND REGIONAL GROUPS, AND OUR CO-ORDINATOR.

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO TOOK PART. I AM THINKING OF THE SCHOOL IN WHITEHORSE WHICH LENT ITS FACILITIES, AND OF THE YUKON COMPANY (NORTHWEST TEL) WHICH PROVIDED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT. I AM THINKING OF THE JOURNALISTS, WHO GAVE DEPTH AND INSIGHT TO THE DISCUSSIONS, AND OF THE SCHOOLCHILDREN OF CALGARY WHOSE SONG DEMONSTRATED THEIR SENSE OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE CHILDREN OF THE THIRD WORLD. I AM THINKING OF THE ORGANIZERS OF THE "MARDIS D'AFRIQUE", THE AFRICA TUESDAYS IN SHERBROOKE, AND OF THE SERIOUS INTEREST OF THE HALIFAX ACADEMIC COMMUNITY... AND OF SO MANY OTHERS.

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT, THANKS TO ALL THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHO PARTICIPATED IN THESE MEETINGS, AND TO THOSE WHO ORGANIZED THEM.