

In conjunction with other Paris Club creditors, Canada is deferring principal payments due on official debt contracted by the former U.S.S.R. before January 1991. The payments owed to Canada and deferred in 1992 amount to US\$170 million.

Canada has established \$1 million trust funds at the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to buy Canadian consultancy services and has contributed about \$500,000 to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the UN Economic Commission for Europe to finance activities that have a particular interest for Canada.

Humanitarian assistance

Canada contributed \$8 million to the Canadian Red Cross Society for the purchase of medicine and medical supplies (for example, syringes, sutures, dressing sets, compresses, thermometers) for vulnerable groups in the Baltic countries, Russia, Ukraine, Armenia, Nagorno-Karabakh, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Belarus.

The target groups were children in hospitals, pregnant women and the elderly in and outside of institutions. The first part of this assistance was delivered between January and May 1992.

The prime minister announced an additional \$5 million contribution for Russia in June 1992.