

finding and implementing permanent solutions, in co-operation with the other aid agencies, to the severe setback the drought has meant for the development of the Sahel.

There is a third element, however, which has a special relevance to Africa. That is our concern for human rights and dignity and self-determination. For a quarter of a century, successive Canadian Governments have condemned racial injustice and colonialism as they have been practised in Southern Africa. The situations prevailing in that area have, in our opinion, been totally unacceptable and an affront to the conscience of the world.

Sometimes our policies in this field have been dismissed by some critics as mere rhetoric. But that is far from the case.

For example, we consider our bilateral aid programs in the independent countries of Southern Africa such as Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland show where we stand in relation to them and to the white-ruled minority regimes.

We have also channelled substantial sums into various multilateral institutions such as the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and the Commonwealth Secretariat, which are carrying on humanitarian programs in this area.

Finally, we have initiated a policy of expanded humanitarian assistance in Southern Africa. Funds are given in the form of matching grants to Canadian non-governmental organizations and international bodies that have existing projects of this kind in Southern Africa. Assistance is being provided, for example, to an educational and health centre in Lusaka, to other health centres in the Chiweshe Reserve in Rhodesia, and for educational, medical and agricultural equipment in Angola and Mozambique. Our record for many years shows convincingly where we stand. We have condemned, and shall continue to condemn, racism and colonialism in Southern Africa.

Developments in Southern Africa during the last year give some hope that the situation may significantly improve. Events in the Portuguese territories have been so rapid and so dramatic that they emphasize how unwise it is to be dogmatic. We are gratified and encouraged by the decolonization process undertaken by the Portuguese Government. Very few people foresaw such changes as have occurred in Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique during the past year. No one can be certain what will be the situation in the remainder of Southern Africa one year from now. However, there are indications that the South African Government is seriously attempting to improve its relations with its neighbours by peaceful means. As part of this effort, the South Africans appear to be

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