5.16 The Committee recommends that the government commit itself to stabilizing ODA at the present GNP ratio and seek to make progress towards the 0.7% target when Canada's fiscal situation permits.

<u>Response</u>

The Government remains committed to an active and effective Official Development Assistance program as a vital element of Canadian foreign policy. Given present-day fiscal realities, however, all government programs are being reviewed and Canada's ODA program is no exception. The Government is committed to making progress toward the target of 0.7 per cent when Canada's fiscal situation permits.