

legitimate, elected president. I am convinced that La Francophonie will continue its support for Haiti, as it faces its enormous task of national reconstruction.

Canada, for its part, announced on October 15 that it would inject \$30 million into various programs over the next six months to meet the immediate needs of the people, especially programs that create jobs. In response to a request from President Aristide and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Canada has begun to train Haitian police officers in Canada and Haiti in order to create a new police force that truly serves the population. We agreed to take part in the United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), and when authorized by the Security Council, Canada will deploy about 100 RCMP officers and between 450 and 600 members of the Canadian Armed Forces in Haiti.

Although we are comforted by images of the democratic renaissance in Haiti, other images are unbearable. Who among us has not been haunted by the pictures of massacre victims in Rwanda and of the men, women and children packed into camps tormented by sickness, hunger, and now exactions of all kinds?

Faced with conflicts that threaten the lives of millions of innocent people in its own member countries, and that expose them to the worst violations of their fundamental rights, La Francophonie cannot remain indifferent. Have we ourselves not solemnly reaffirmed the primacy of these rights in the resolutions passed and the statements issued at the last Francophone Summits, in Dakar, Chaillot and Mauritius?

Canada fully supports the various actions that have been taken by many Francophone countries to help the people of Rwanda and Burundi. As I pointed out at the United Nations, for two months Canada was the *only* country airlifting supplies to Kigali. To date, 360 Canadian soldiers have served in these countries under the UN flag, and numerous Canadian NGOs [non-governmental organizations] have mobilized to bring relief to these populations in distress. I am also heartened by the support provided by the people of Canada, who have directly contributed over \$18 million in a spontaneous gesture of solidarity with the people of Rwanda.

I would like to take the opportunity offered by this conference to announce that Canada will provide \$8.5 million to aid in the reconstruction of Rwanda and to continue our support for the repatriation of Rwandan refugees and for the resettlement of displaced persons within Rwanda. This money will be used for purposes such as financing a social development fund, supporting the International Committee of the Red Cross, and setting up projects to encourage good government and democratic development. These funds are above and beyond the \$21.8 million that Canada