
It is with these "resources" of environment, finance, policy and co-ordination that the great long-term problems of Africa must be attacked. Bluntly stated, these problems include:

(a) *Food production* — subsistence agriculture does not allow for the accumulation of significant food surpluses. Policies to increase real incomes for those who produce food inevitably stimulate food production. However, more than just agricultural pricing policies have to be changed; there is a complex of other factors, including transportation, crop storage and farm inputs. Moreover, stepped-up agricultural research into local food crops is an important factor in increasing yields. All of these aspects, taken together, can begin to build an indigenous agricultural base of sufficient viability to withstand future deprecations.

(b) *Infrastructure* — the first phase of the UN Transport and Communication Decade for Africa has, according to the ECA, been encouraging. The second phase calls for an investment of \$18 billion. Infrastructure must play an indispensable role in increasing Africa's ability to respond to future emergencies, as well as expanding over-all output. We would go so far as to say that in certain instances, the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing infrastructure should take priority over new investment.

(c) *Human resource development* — the use of human resources, particularly in agriculture, is central to the proper management of the industry. In particular, acknowledging the key role of women in development, upgrading the value of their work, and integrating their contributions to production and income generation are essential goals. This is one of the great challenges for contemporary Africa. And the goals must be met if any real and sustained progress is to be accomplished in Africa in the long term.

(d) *The 3 per cent per annum population growth* — this growth rate is an integral part of the food *per capita* equation. A long-term decrease will lessen the impact of future emergencies.

Let me turn, once again, to the central focus of our debate here today. Canada firmly believes that the UN system, working with multilateral agencies, bilateral agencies and Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs), has an absolutely vital contribution to make in responding to the current emergency in Africa. Already, looking toward the future, the international community through the UN has formulated a number of coherent long-range plans of action for Africa, particularly through the World Bank and its six point program. The Special Fund for Sub-Saharan Africa has received over \$1 billion, of which sum, I am pleased to say, Canada has contributed more than \$100 million. (As an aside, I should also like to add for the record, that Canada has increased its bilateral disbursements to Africa for the year 1985-86 by almost exactly 50 per cent over [those of] 1983-84. The bilateral sum has now reached \$430 million. Total Canadian resources going to Africa will reach over \$850 million in 1985-86). What we and others must ensure, however, is that the funds are effectively employed to deliver the maximum benefit. In the short-term, that means saving lives; in the medium- and long-term it means building — carefully, painstakingly — an invulnerable base for the future survival of the continent.

The African countries themselves now have a more thorough assessment of their own desperate difficulties, and at the same time have already developed an enhanced capacity to respond to these difficulties.
