



PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA, CANADA

-2-

MOST OF THESE REFUGEES ARE WHITE RUSSIANS WHO LEFT THEIR COUNTRY AFTER THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION OF 1917. APPROXIMATELY HALF OF THEM HAVE BEEN MOVED BY ICEM FROM HONG KONG TO OVERSEAS DESTINATIONS, BUT IT IS ESTIMATED THAT NEARLY 10,000 STILL REMAIN IN CHINA. OF THOSE, 6,000 HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACCEPTED FOR PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES, CHIEFLY IN AUSTRALIA AND BRAZIL. HOWEVER, AS THESE REFUGEES HAVE LITTLE OR NO FUNDS OF THEIR OWN, INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IS NECESSARY IF THEY ARE TO BE ABLE TO MOVE FROM THE MAINLAND OF CHINA TO PERMANENT HOMES OVERSEAS.