

sensitive development in our programming and to provide targeted support to initiatives aimed at conflict prevention, conflict resolution and post-conflict reconciliation activities.

Canada's actions to address sub-Saharan Africa's humanitarian crises have been significant, both in terms of foreign and development assistance policies, and financial resources. However, materially improving the situation will require a long-term commitment from both African governments and donor countries such as Canada. Many of the crises identified in the Report have festered for many years or even decades. Similarly, their resolution will require many years of commitment and perseverance. The Government is committed to sustaining this effort through its support for the G8 Africa Action Plan and through its regular development and humanitarian assistance programmes.

Part II of the Report: Urgent Crises in Sub-Saharan Africa

The HIV/AIDS Pandemic

Recommendation 1.1

The Sub-Committee commends the government for its commitment to fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic through its contributions to multilateral programs and through bilateral programming. However, the magnitude and urgency of this crisis require additional action and resources. The Sub-Committee agrees with Stephen Lewis that the HIV/AIDS pandemic desperately needs a voice among industrial nations, and that Canada is uniquely positioned to be that voice. It calls on the government to make a substantial and public commitment to the political and moral leadership role needed to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic in SSA. And it urges the government to triple its contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The Government agrees with the Sub-Committee's recommendation that Canada is uniquely positioned to show leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) recently elected Canada as their Vice-Chair for the term June 2003 to June 2004 and subsequent Chair for June 2004 to June 2005. The Minister for International Cooperation will represent Canada as Chair of this Board. Canada will also assume a seat on the Board of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) in January 2004. Moreover, in November 2003, the Government will co-host, with UNAIDS and other partners, a Policy Dialogue on the themes of HIV/AIDS and Injection Drug Use, and HIV/AIDS complacency, to be held in Poland. The Government will also provide support for the XVIth International AIDS Conference, to be held in Toronto in 2006.

In June 2001, the UN adopted the UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS. The Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs represented