

still many instances of human rights violations in the Soviet Union and that the Canadian Government should remain vigilant. Alluding to the absence of political freedom in that country, many participants called on the Soviet Government to "set the captives free" and to discharge its commitments under the Helsinki Accord.⁶

On 13 October 1987, Conservative Member Reginald Stackhouse, Chairman of the House of Commons Committee on Human Rights, indicated that, according to an Amnesty International report, thirty-three of the forty-nine countries in the Commonwealth were guilty of serious human rights violations. Having cited these countries, Stackhouse added :

Clearly human rights ought to be on the agenda of the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Vancouver, and clearly we need an ongoing program here. Some of the offending countries receive Canadian development assistance. The Canadian Government will do right to use the leverage of its assistance programs to gain justice for people unable to secure it for themselves.⁷

Other members also condemned El Salvador, South Korea, Haiti, Israel and Ethiopia and Singapore for abusing human rights.⁸ On 2 November 1987, Mr. Reginald Stackhouse brought to the attention of the House that Ethiopia, to which CIDA has given \$20 million in bilateral aid so far, is responsible for human rights violations "which are patently systematic,

⁶ Common Debates, 15 September 1987, p. 8948, 20 October 1987, p. 10178.

⁷ Common Debates, 13 October 1987, p. 9909.

⁸ Commons Debates, 28 August 1987, p. 8575; 30 October 1987, p. 10569; 10 December 1987, p. 11672; 19 January 1988, p. 12050; 25 February 1988, p. 12123, and 26 February 1988, p. 13169, 22 June 1988, p. 16704.