

gave \$150 million in food aid and \$18 million in other forms of humanitarian assistance. In addition, it contributed \$100 million to the IBRD Special Facility for Sub-Sahara Africa. External Affairs was intimately involved in the response to the famine and in the setting up and continuing operations of the Office of the Canadian Emergency Relief Co-ordinator for African Famine. The Department provided support for the Co-ordinator's three visits to Europe and various African countries.

Canadians were also aware of increasing levels of violence in South Africa, and the issue of apartheid continued to be a major concern for many people. The Secretary of State for External Affairs announced that a full-scale review of Canada's policy towards South Africa would take place and consultations began with various interested groups and individuals. The issue was highlighted by the visit to Canada of Nobel Peace Prize winner, Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, who was received by the Prime Minister and accorded a standing ovation in the House of Commons on December 21, 1984.

Conflicts continued in Chad, the Western Sahara, and in the Horn of Africa, without any sign of possible early solutions. The issue of Namibia's independence continued to preoccupy the Department. Economic stagnation as well as political upheaval typified the year in many African countries. Canada continued to support the efforts of the Organization of African Unity to resolve conflicts and tension, and made a contribution towards resolving economic problems through aid and development programs, both bilateral and with the African Development Bank and the IMF.

Ministerial visits between Canada and various African countries, particularly in Francophone Africa, developed and strengthened contacts as Canada sought to increase the effectiveness of its aid program, diversify and increase commercial relations, improve the political dialogue both bilaterally and in international forums and increase exchanges in the areas of culture, sports and education.

In April 1984, the Minister for External Relations visited Algeria and Tunisia, and in January 1985 visited the Ivory Coast for meetings of the Bilateral Commission and then visited Kenya to review various bilateral projects. In November 1984, the Secretary of State for External Affairs visited Ethiopia briefly for a firsthand assessment of the famine there. Canadian representatives also paid an official visit to Zimbabwe, and attended the inaugural celebrations for President Mobutu's new seven-year term in Zaire, the annual meeting of the Southern African Development Corporation Committee (SADCC) in Swaziland in February 1985, and the thirtieth anniversary celebrations of the Algerian Revolution in November 1984.

Canada also hosted a number of ministerial visits dealing with a range of topics. For example, the Algerian Minister of Culture and Tourism signed an accord for film co-operation. Various ministers from Senegal, Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Guinea, Rwanda, Togo, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Kenya visited Canada, as well as a delegation led by SADCC's Executive Secretary. A large Algerian delegation was in Ottawa in March 1985 for the Bilateral Commission meeting, hosted by the Minister for External Relations.

Commercial relations with Africa improved greatly during

the year. After a difficult year in 1983, characterized by economic and financial problems in most African countries, exports of Canadian products returned to the \$1.5 billion level in 1984. Also, Canada provided Africa with approximately \$400 million of consulting services, with major markets continuing to be Algeria, South Africa, Tunisia, Nigeria and Libya. Canada imported \$1.1 billion of African products last year.

External Affairs continued to promote trade activities in Africa by assisting exporters and by working towards a healthy trading climate. In particular, the Gabonese market received close attention and exports of mining, telecommunications and transport equipment are expected to increase. The third meeting of the Bilateral Commission with Algeria discussed trade and increased use of EDC financing in the agricultural, communications, transport, energy and housing sectors, while in Southern Africa, Canada's participation in the fifth annual meeting of SADCC should facilitate Canadian access to that market for agricultural, transport and energy products. Discussions continued with the World Bank and the African Development Bank in an effort to increase Canadian involvement in multilaterally financed projects. Similarly, a program was initiated to disseminate information on these projects more rapidly to Canadian companies to help them compete more effectively.

External Affairs also organized a large number of bilateral missions for Canadian exporters. Telecommunications missions visited Cameroon and Zaire, while other groups were sent to Algeria (mining and medical equipment), Ghana (forestry) and Zambia, Zaire and Kenya (railroad equipment). Incoming buyer missions from Libya, Cameroon, Madagascar and Morocco visited the Calgary Petroleum Show, while various mixed sector groups from Ghana, Nigeria and Zimbabwe were also in Canada. The Department sponsored participation in four trade fairs — Algiers, Libreville, Kaduna and Dakar — and one exclusively Canadian technology fair was presented in Abidjan. Eight trade commissioners were brought back to Canada for Marketplace 85.

The Middle East

Canada continued to devote considerable attention to improving bilateral relations and trade with countries of the Middle East. Despite constraints on spending by most Middle East countries as oil revenues fell, Canadian exports of goods and services for the period were estimated at about \$2.5 billion and continued growth is expected. A new embassy was established in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates in the autumn of 1984, primarily to support the efforts of Canadian exporters in the lower Gulf.

Saudi Arabia remained Canada's largest export market in the Middle East, purchasing \$900 million in Canadian goods and services. Early in 1985, following the move inland of the Canadian embassy to new premises in Riyadh, steps were taken to establish an honorary consulate in Jeddah to ensure continuity in services to Canadian firms in that important segment of the Saudi market, as well as to look after the consular needs of Canadian citizens.

Significant expansion took place in the export of Canadian goods to Egypt; exports of \$286 million made it Canada's second-largest customer in the region. The substantial sales