6. If a DFI cannot be created quickly, it is recommended that a Canada-Africa Enterprise (or Development) Fund be created that has two components:
    a) **"Entrepreneurial Africa" Component:** $10k - $250k range of debt or equity finance available for African business partners of Canadian related projects/firms. This fills the gap between the microcredit efforts found across Africa, and the glaring need for more capital for African firms that are trying to expand and work with Canadian partners. EDC and African local banks do not currently cover this gap
    b) **"Canada – Africa Venture" Component:** $100k - $4 million range of debt, equity, and high risk capital available to Canadian projects/firms in the natural resources, infrastructure, manufacturing, ICT, and some service sectors that are looking beyond exports to setting up or investing in businesses in Africa. This would also leverage other sources of finance. The focus would be on SMEs, and the Fund could get involved in high-risk oil and gas/mining prospecting stage efforts (pre-bankable feasibility), to privatizations, roll out of smaller scale ICT or infrastructure projects, or manufacturing etc.
7. Afro-pessimism must be challenged and addressed strategically. The G8 meeting in Kananaskis provides a unique opportunity for Canadians and corporate Canada to be educated on the potential investment opportunities particularly in those countries where the business environment has improved significantly over the last few years. There are excellent resource-based projects that can be structured to reduce risk.
8. Canadian investors need government support to mitigate investment risk though partial credit or partial risk guarantee facilities and new forms of credit enhancement mechanisms. Export Development Canada (EDC) is not doing enough in this area and most African countries are off-line and seen as too risky. The DFI could play this role or modified Canadian Commercial Corporation or EDC programs, tolerant of higher risk, could be introduced.
9. Put fiscal incentives, such as tax credits in place, to make it attractive for Canadian corporations to invest in Africa.
10. Work with the World Bank, IMF and others to introduce an objective credit rating program for African countries which would result in enhanced investor confidence.
11. Promotion by the Government of Canada tied to training programs offered with financial support of CIDA to introduce internationally recognized quality control and certification stands (ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 series for example) to help African exporters gain access to industrialized country markets.
12. Improve the visa process, information availability and services of Trade Commissioners assisting Canadian firms to do business in Africa and African firms wishing to work with Canadian firms.
13. Projects either funded through CIDA or DFAIT promoting linkages between Canadian and African firms should continue to be supported. Multiplication of a "Canadian Alliance for Business in South Africa" model for business linkage facilitation in other African countries was highly recommended with a focus on niche markets for SMEs.
14. Canada should consider debt forgiveness, particularly for countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.
15. Canadian aid in Africa should be African-driven with a priority on developing partnerships as recommended in the NEPAD document. Priority sectors of aid should focus on: agriculture, good public governance, private sector development, infrastructure, good corporate governance, education, health,