

Appendix

New Challenges, New Structures

The Canadian Emergency Coordinator/African Famine was appointed on November 1, 1984 "to bring priority attention to bear upon Canada's response to the food crisis in Africa, and particularly in Ethiopia." Reporting directly to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, the Coordinator also worked with the Minister for External Relations, the Honourable Monique Vézina, and Margaret Catley-Carlson, the President of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The Canadian Emergency Coordinator/African Famine was asked:

- To assess the food crisis in Africa and particularly in Ethiopia,
- To propose concrete steps for the government to take in providing assistance,
- To work with NGOs in mobilizing and channelling Canadian support to feed the hungry,
- To liaise with provincial governments to encourage their support and assistance, and
- To cooperate with other donors and with international organizations involved in providing food aid to Africa.

The following outlines our activities during the initial four months. A more detailed report of our work to the end of our original mandate on March 31, 1985, is in preparation and will be available in May.

To assess the food crisis in Africa and particularly in Ethiopia: In our three missions to Ethiopia in December, 1984, to the Sahel in January, 1985, and to Sudan in February, 1985, we saw the beginnings of ecological breakdown. The visits provided an opportunity for a firsthand assessment of the crisis by Members of Parliament, a representative of a provincial government and representatives from business, labour, NGOs as well as logistic, programme and policy experts. In Africa, we met with governmental authorities, personnel of NGOs, representatives of donor countries