

5.14 The Committee recommends that Canada continue to be responsive to requests for emergency assistance but set eligibility criteria for emergency assistance to ensure that long-term development assistance remains the primary focus of the aid program.

Response

The Government agrees with the need for a structured response to the provision of emergency assistance. The Government's approach will include support for emergency prevention and preparedness, as well as the provision of basic health, nutrition, shelter and other necessities to the victims of crises. Humanitarian assistance for the support and resettlement of refugees and displaced persons will also be provided as the necessary first step toward rehabilitation and a resumption of development.

Long-term development assistance will remain the primary purpose of the aid program.