

This machinery is charged with the dual role of not only mobilizing food aid, but of grappling with the issue of managing existing world food resources and of increasing food production in developing countries.

The food crisis has resulted in the creation of some new bodies under the United Nations. Canada is or will be an active participant in these new bodies and this is an opportunity to provide some of the details of our contribution. First, Canada is lending its support to, and indeed is a founding member of the 36-nation World Food Council which is envisioned as an umbrella structure to coordinate the activities of the many international organizations concerned with agriculture. The Council, scheduled to hold its first meeting in June, would function as the overall coordinating body for international policies concerning the vital matters of food production, nutrition, food security, and food aid. This Council would also review major problems and policies affecting the world food situation and consider remedial steps proposed by governments and UN organizations, in an effort to resolve them, and recommend any further actions on such matters.

Canada is also participating in an important adjunct to the World Food Council in its support for the newly-founded Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes within the World Food Programme, established on the recommendation of the World Food Conference. This committee is envisaged as a reconstitution of the existing Intergovernmental Committee of the WFP, of which Canada is a longstanding member. The new committee, which will report to the World Food Council is to function as a much-needed forum for intergovernmental consultations on both bilateral and multilateral food aid programmes, and to discuss ways such programmes can be improved.