

# News Release

Secretary of  
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# Communiqué

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## **CANADA PROVIDES FURTHER \$9.5 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN AID FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA**

External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall today announced that Canada is providing an additional \$9.5 million in humanitarian assistance for victims of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Together with the \$1.5 million for victims of sexual violence announced last Friday, this brings to \$36.25 million Canada's contribution to international relief efforts for the victims of the conflict.

"Canadians continue to demonstrate their solidarity and their compassion for those who have been forced to suffer all forms of human degradation -- and our government will continue to provide support for these unfortunated people," said Mrs. McDougall.

Today's new aid package comprises four components:

- **\$5 million to the World Food Program (WFP)** for the purchase of Canadian wheat flour, canned fish, vegetable oil and pulses such as beans, lentils and yellow split peas;
- **\$2 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** for the distribution of food and medical supplies, the provision of shelter and the tracing of missing persons;
- **\$1 million to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRCS)** for the distribution, through local and national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, of food, medicines and clothing; and

- \$1.5 million to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF). These funds will be used to provide psychological support for children with war trauma-related disorders. It will also be used to provide basic health care to children and pregnant women.

These four organizations, co-ordinated by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), have led the way in international efforts to alleviate suffering in the former Yugoslavia.

"By channelling our assistance through these agencies, we are sure that we are meeting an identified shortage and that our contribution will be directed to those most in need," said Mrs. McDougall.

- 30 -

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