

news release

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CANADA INCREASES EDUCATION AND DEMOCRATIC DIALOGUE FUNDS FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

ABUJA, NIGERIA. The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today announced that Canada would provide an additional \$1 million this year to expand Canada's education and training programs for black South Africans. Half of the additional \$1 million will be allocated for higher-level management training, and the remaining \$500,000 will be dedicated to other educational programs. This increased funding is in addition to more than \$8 million Canada is already spending in 1990 on a range of education assistance programs for South Africa.

Mr. Clark also announced a substantial increase in funding for the Canadian Fund for the Promotion of Dialogue and Negotiations Towards a Non-Racial, Democratic South Africa. This brings to \$1.8 million the amount committed to the Dialogue Fund in 1990, over the \$1 million spent in 1989.

Mr. Clark made the announcements to the Committee of Commonwealth Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa, whose two-day meeting in Abuja, Nigeria ends today. In his address to the opening session of the Committee, attended by Nelson Mandela and other dignitaries, Mr. Clark highlighted the vital importance of assistance to black South Africans in the areas of education, training and work experience. "There is an urgent need for more programs to provide potential black leaders with practical experience in running large corporations in both the private and public sectors."

In Ottawa, the Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, added "Canadians are indeed proud that this funding will allow more black South Africans to pursue post-graduate studies and benefit from high-level management experience in Canada." The Canadian International Development Agency is providing the additional \$1 million funding, which will be channelled through the Canadian Embassy in Pretoria and through the South Africa Education Trust Fund, chaired by Archbishop Scott of Canada.

Mr. Clark noted to his Commonwealth colleagues that the Dialogue Fund increase to \$1.8 million would permit financing of even more projects, and that \$2.3 million has been earmarked for the Fund for 1991. Scores of projects promoting dialogue among South Africans working towards a non-racial, democratic future have already been funded. this year increased emphasis is being given to projects which will directly assist the process of negotiations, such as the provision of constitutional expertise, and funding for conferences on issues and options for a post-apartheid South Africa.

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