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# news release

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## **CANADA ANNOUNCES \$10 MILLION IN HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA**

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced a contribution of \$10 million in humanitarian assistance for the victims of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. The announcement was made at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe Council meeting in Rome. The contribution will support ongoing relief operations of United Nations (UN) agencies and the International Red Cross.

"Winter will exacerbate the extremely difficult conditions in the former Yugoslavia. This package of humanitarian aid will help some of the most vulnerable victims of the conflict, including refugees, women, children and the elderly, throughout the winter," said Mr. Ouellet.

Mr. Ouellet called on all parties to continue in their efforts to reach a negotiated settlement at peace talks resumed in Geneva and to fulfil commitments to allow unhampered delivery of humanitarian aid to victims of this tragedy.

The Canadian contribution will be allocated to a series of bilateral and multilateral programs including:

- \$4 million in Canadian food aid delivered by the World Food Program;
- \$3.2 million to the United Nations High Commission for Refugees to support refugee camp programs and the logistics of ongoing relief operations;
- \$400 000 to the World Health Organization to help restore medical facilities and support local health personnel;
- \$400 000 to the UN Children's Fund for mother and child health-care programs;

- \$1.5 million to the Red Cross for the provision of emergency winter supplies; and
- \$500 000 to support the humanitarian assistance activities of qualified Canadian agencies.

This announcement brings Canada's total contribution of humanitarian assistance to the former Yugoslavia, since the autumn of 1991, to \$50 million.

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