

Re: Current Canadian Contributions to Darfur/UNAMID

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From: James Good

The Canadian government has described its approach to Sudan as having three ‘pillars,’ these being aid, diplomacy and security. [1] Canada has made various contributions in each of these areas.

In terms of aid, Canada’s contributions can be further subdivided into what the government refers to as “Humanitarian Assistance” and “Early Recovery.” [2] Through the humanitarian assistance Canada has delivered emergency-food aid through the United Nations World Food Program and other assistance which provides “water, sanitation, emergency medical assistance shelter and protection.” [3] The Canadian Government states that since January of 2006, Canada has given more than \$163 million in aid to “war affected civilians in Sudan.” [4] Early recovery efforts are funded through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Canadian Government states that Canada has contributed over \$140 million to early recovery efforts since January of 2006. [5] CIDA has also begun implementing programs to provide aid in the areas of health, education and food security. In terms of health and education, CIDA has the goals of introducing first-time access to education to over 5,000 children, providing improvements to infrastructure and equipment in 75 schools, providing training to 2,130 teachers in the areas of child-centered teaching approaches, HIV/AIDS prevention education, and girls’ education, improving basic health care access to up to 10,000 individuals and vaccinations for 4,000 women and children. [6] In terms of what CIDA refers to as “food security,” which is essentially a mechanism to provide training for the purposes of employment and increased agricultural yield, stated goals include having 250,000 individuals benefit from “better access to livelihoods and markets,” offering 1,400 farmers benefits from field-schools, the delivery of tools and seeds to 15,000 households, and expanding the sustainability and marketing capacity of fisheries cooperatives. [7]

¹ “Canada’s Approach.” *Government of Canada*. 16 February 2010. <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/approach-approche.aspx?lang=eng>

² “Canadian Aid to Sudan.” *Government of Canada*. 31 December 2009.

http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/humanitarian_aid-aide_humanitaire.aspx?lang=eng

³ “Canadian Aid to Sudan.” *Government of Canada*. 31 December 2009.

http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/humanitarian_aid-aide_humanitaire.aspx?lang=eng

⁴ “Canadian Aid to Sudan.” *Government of Canada*. 31 December 2009.

http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/humanitarian_aid-aide_humanitaire.aspx?lang=eng

⁵ “Canadian Aid to Sudan.” *Government of Canada*. 31 December 2009.

http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/humanitarian_aid-aide_humanitaire.aspx?lang=eng

⁶ “Sudan Overview” *Canadian International Development Agency* March 17, 2010. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/sudan>

⁷ “Sudan Overview” *Canadian International Development Agency* March 17, 2010. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/sudan>

Canada's diplomatic assistance is difficult to quantify; however, it can best be described in terms of Canada's participation in various international organizations to aid in the Darfur peace process. Canada's approach takes particular advantage of its embassies in countries and regions neighbouring Sudan as well as the Canadian seat in the United Nations in order to "express Canada's concerns over the humanitarian and human rights situation in the Darfur region." [8] Canada also makes a diplomatic contribution to UNAMID through its position as co-chair in the Friends of UNAMID, an organization which looks into the best ways to "facilitate the swift and full deployment of [the UNAMID mission] and to coordinate support and policies relating to the mission." [9] Canada has also committed to certain measures against Sudan in response to the Darfur situation such as "the withholding of support for commercial support services, including export finance and trade and investment development activities" and "the withholding of government-to-government development cooperation." [10] Canada has also implemented the sanctions mandated by the United Nations. [11] These UN sanctions include "a prohibition on the export of arms and related material to any person in Sudan; a prohibition on the provision, to any person in Sudan, of technical assistance related to arms and related material; an assets freeze against those persons designated by the Committee of the Security Council of the United Nations established by Resolution 1591 to oversee the sanctions measures (1591 Committee); and a travel ban against persons designated by the 1591 Committee." [12]

The category of the security contribution to Darfur and UNAMID may be broken down into three possible areas of contribution, these being: human resources, training and equipment. [13] With regard to human resources, the Canadian Forces have instituted Operation SATURN. According to the Department of National Defence, Operation SATURN is "the deployment of a Canadian forces team to serve with [UNAMID]." [14] The activities of Operation SATURN take place in cooperation with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, CIDA, and the RCMP. [15] Operation SATURN consists of three members, two of whom are logistical experts and one

⁸ "Diplomacy" *Government of Canada*. 6 January 2010. <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/diplomacy-diplomatie.aspx?lang=eng>

⁹ "Diplomacy" *Government of Canada*. 6 January 2010. <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/diplomacy-diplomatie.aspx?lang=eng>

¹⁰ "Diplomacy" *Government of Canada*. 6 January 2010. <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/diplomacy-diplomatie.aspx?lang=eng>

¹¹ "Diplomacy" *Government of Canada*. 6 January 2010. <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/diplomacy-diplomatie.aspx?lang=eng>

¹² "Sudan" *Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada* March 24 2009.

http://www.international.gc.ca/sanctions/sudan-soudan.aspx?lang=eng&menu_id=23&menu=R

¹³ "Security." *Government of Canada*. 31 December 2009. <http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/sudan-soudan/security-securite.aspx?lang=eng>

¹⁴ "Operation SATURN." *Department of National Defence*. 11 January 2010. <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/saturn/index-eng.asp>

¹⁵ "Operation SATURN." *Department of National Defence*. 11 January 2010. <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/saturn/index-eng.asp>

of whom is a human resources specialist. [16] All three personnel assigned to Operation SATURN are positioned at the UNAMID Headquarters in El Fasher[17].

Canada has also made the commitment to contribute to the training of personnel for UNAMID forces. A three week course is offered in Nairobi Kenya and is designed to “increase the capacity of UNAMID to address the crisis in Sudan’s war-ravaged Darfur region” and has been described as “an example of Canada’s commitment to support peace in Sudan.” [18] As of November 2009 over 350 African military officers have taken part in the training offered by the Canadian forces and have “acquired the basic skills necessary to effectively participate in peace keeping operations in mid to high intensity conflict environments in Africa.” [19]

Canada’s contributions to UNAMID include equipment of various kinds, the most recent contribution being a contribution of armoured and un-armoured vehicles as well as engineering equipment, medical and dental equipment, logistical equipment, protective equipment and tents. [20] These most recent contributions are part of a joint effort with the Netherlands and the contributions of both countries are valued at over U.S.D. \$12 million. These resources are to be contributed specifically to the Ugandan branch of the UNAMID effort in Darfur. [21] Canada has also recently made a similar contribution of equipment to Senegalese police units taking part in UNAMID efforts in Soudan. [22] Canada’s contribution to the Senegalese police peace keeping units is valued at \$9.5 million. [23]

¹⁶ “Operation SATURN.” *Department of National Defence*. 11 January 2010. <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/saturn/index-eng.asp>

¹⁷ “Operation SATURN.” *Department of National Defence*. 11 January 2010. <http://www.cefcom.forces.gc.ca/pa-ap/ops/saturn/index-eng.asp>

¹⁸ “Canadian Forces Provide Training to Build Capacity of African Union Peace Keepers in Sudan.” *Government of Canada*. 9 November 2009. http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/kenya/highlights-faits/TrainingPeaceKeepers_FormationMaintienDeLaPaix.aspx?lang=eng

¹⁹ “Canadian Forces Provide Training to Build Capacity of African Union Peace Keepers in Sudan.” *Government of Canada*. 9 November 2009. http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/kenya/highlights-faits/TrainingPeaceKeepers_FormationMaintienDeLaPaix.aspx?lang=eng

²⁰ “Canada, Netherlands supply vehicles for Darfur peacekeeping” *People’s Daily Online. Xinhua*. 10 February 2010. <http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90777/90855/6892776.html>

²¹ “Canada, Netherlands supply vehicles for Darfur peacekeeping” *People’s Daily Online. Xinhua*. 10 February 2010. <http://english.people.com.cn/90001/90777/90855/6892776.html>

²² Ibrahima Diallo. “Le Canada équipe la première unité constituée de police sénégalaise.” *Sudan Online*. 10 February 2010. <http://www.sudonline.sn/spip.php?article781>

²³ Ibrahima Diallo. “Le Canada équipe la première unité constituée de police sénégalaise.” *Sudan Online*. 10 February 2010. <http://www.sudonline.sn/spip.php?article781>