



CANADA'S PERIODICAL ON REFUGEES REFUGEE

Vol. 9, No. 2

December 1989

CCR Fall Resolutions

The recent events in El Salvador, which have greatly exacerbated the human rights and refugee situation in that country, figured prominently in the resolutions passed by the Canadian Council for Refugees during its annual fall conference in Montreal on November 23-25. Two resolutions in particular dealt with the Salvadorean problem as part of the need to continue working to eliminate the root causes of the refugee crisis. It was also resolved to demand a halt to all deportations of Haitians living in Canada (ten days after the CCR conference the government stopped these deportations), to continue the monitoring of cases of deportation of refugee claimants deemed to be in need of protection, and to seek a review of Canada's commitments to the UNHCR now that the latter is experiencing its worst financial crisis.

El Salvador

Be it resolved that:

1. The Executive of the CCR take immediate steps to urge the Canadian Government to:
 - i) Continue efforts to bring about an immediate cease-fire and a negotiated settlement to the civil war and, in the meantime, maintain its suspension of government-to-government aid to El Salvador;
 - ii) Actively back the Organization of American States resolution urging all parties which have links to or interest in the region, to abstain from any actions which interfere with the achievement of a real and lasting peace in Central America;
 - iii) Support NGO relief efforts to provide immediate humanitarian aid to the people of El Salvador;
 - iv) Press the Salvadorean government to allow humanitarian organizations such as the International Red Cross and the Salvadorean churches to attend to civilians in the affected areas.

2. That the CCR and its member organizations immediately communicate by telegram, public opinion message, telephone call or letter to the Honourable Joe Clark, Minister of External Affairs, Government of Canada, Ottawa.

Protection

Be it resolved:

That the CCR call upon the Canadian government to undertake the following actions immediately:

1. That Canada increase its staffing in El Salvador to process urgent claims for protection, to process reunification cases originating with Salvadoreans in Canada, to ensure protection of Salvadoreans at refugee centres, and to ensure protection of persons approved by Canada in transit to the airport;
2. That Canada remove visa requirements and waive passport requirements for those persons in El Salvador needing urgent protection from Canada;

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE:

A Word About Naïvety by Geza Tessenyi	page 3
The Evolution in Perception of the Role of the RHO by Sam Laredo, Elaine Pollock and Jan Marshall	page 4
An Appeal on the Merits by Michael Schelew	page 6
The Interpreters at the IRB by Alex Zisman	page 10
A Task Force on Overseas Selection by David Matas	page 11
Who Gets In? reviewed by Howard Adelman	page 13

