

Plans for the 2010 G8 Muskoka Summit: June 25-26, 2010

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as well. There is also the inheritance of commitments made by G8 summits over the past decade that are due to be fulfilled in 2010 (see Appendix A). These cluster in the areas of the economy, health, development, the environment and peace support.

Agenda: The Policy Summit

Priority Themes

In a publication released prior to the 2009 G8 L'Aquila Summit, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper reiterated his priorities for the 2010 summit. "Next year's Muskoka Summit will be a tremendous opportunity to advance the G8's work: to advocate for open markets and free trade at a time of economic turmoil, to insist on truly global action against global warming and to champion freedom, democracy, human right and the rule of law." He highlighted four areas where he thinks the G8 should move ahead in 2010: the global economy, climate change, development and democratic governance. He gave an optimistic outlook for the global economy when he stated, "It is my expectation that by the summer of 2010, when world leaders gather in Muskoka, the global economy will have begun to turn the corner and renewed growth will be in sight."¹ (See <www.g8.utoronto.ca/scholar/g8-2009.html>.)

Tony Clement, minister of industry and representative for the Huntsville area, said the 2010 summit will give Canada a chance to advance our interests, to advocate for open markets and free trade, and to champion freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.² (November 1, 2008, *Industry Canada*)

On June 19, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper announced the location of the 2010 G8 summit and emphasized that it would be a tremendous opportunity to promote Canada's values and interests on the world stage; to advocate for open markets and free trade; to insist on truly global action against global warming; and to champion freedom, democracy, human rights, and the rule of law.³ (June 19, 2008, *Prime Minister of Canada*)

World Economy

Canada has called for more movement in certain Asian currencies and said it expected to discuss currency disorder in G7, G8 and G20 meetings that it will chair this year. Responding to France's call to confront instability in the foreign exchange markets,

¹ Harper, Stephen (2009). "The 2010 Muskoka Summit." In John Kirton and Madeline Koch, eds. *G8: From La Maddalena to L'Aquila*. London: Newsdesk Communications Ltd.

² *Industry Canada* (November 1, 2008), "Minister Clement Announces Date of the 2010 G8 Summit." Available from:

<<http://www.ic.gc.ca/cmb/welcomeic.nsf/0/85256a5d006b9720852574f400756fa1?OpenDocument>> Accessed 2 November 2008.

³ *Prime Minister of Canada* (June 19, 2008), "Prime minister announces Canada to host 2010 G8 Summit in Huntsville." Available from: <<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&id=2155>> Accessed 13 August 2008.

Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty said: “Yes, I expect that this will be a topic of discussion at G7, G8, G20 meetings.” Several countries with free-floating currencies have complained that China’s artificially cheap yuan makes their currencies too expensive so it is difficult for their companies to compete. Flaherty said this was not new: “This is an issue certainly that I’ve been dealing with for four years now ... There was more movement in some of the Asian currencies before the economic crisis, less movement during the economic crisis. Ultimately, we’d like to see more movement.” Flaherty said he would also keep reform of financial systems at the fore of the G7 finance ministers meeting in Iqaluit and at the G20 summit in Toronto in June. “This is a persisting major concern ... We have to make sure we don’t drop the ball here.” He said mutual assessments around the world of the performance of financial systems are required. Countries, however, have different opinions over how they limit executive compensation to prevent undue risk taking. He added that Canada backs the guidelines established by the FSB that reports to the G20 and said he was satisfied Canadian financial institutions were trying to follow those principles.⁴ (January 11, 2010, *Reuters News*)

The G8 urged all countries that had not yet fully implemented the standards of transparency and effective exchange of information in tax matters set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to do so without further delay, and encouraged the OECD to strengthen its work on tax evasion and report back in 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

Climate Change

The G8 members intend to commit to meaningful, realistic and equitable targets that will result in reductions of greenhouse gas emissions by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 1997 U.S.-hosted Denver Summit of the Eight)

The G8 strongly support the launching of 20 large-scale carbon capture and sequestration (CCS) demonstration projects globally by 2010, taking into account various national circumstances, with a view to beginning broad deployment of CCS by 2020. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 countries noted the significant progress made by the multilateral development banks on the Clean Energy Investment Framework (CEIF) agreed at Gleneagles and welcomed their joint level of ambition to mobilize public and private investments of more than \$100 billion up to 2010 from within existing resources. They called upon these Banks to build on the CEIF to develop comprehensive strategies to guide the integration of climate change into their development work and to set specific targets for low carbon investments such as renewable energy. (Commitment pledged in at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 leaders asked experts to assess progress in meeting commitments on technology

⁴ *Reuters News* (January 11, 2010), “Canada expects to discuss currencies at G7, G20.”

development and research in the area of climate change and to report back at the 2010 summit. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Biodiversity

The G8 acknowledged the “Potsdam Initiative — Biological Diversity 2010” presented at the G8 environment ministerial meeting in March 2007 and said they would increase their efforts for the protection and sustainable use of biological diversity to achieve our agreed goal of significantly reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit)

The G8 endorsed the Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity and reiterated their commitment to increase efforts to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss significantly in order to achieve the globally agreed 2010 Biodiversity Target, including by reducing threats from the illicit trade in wildlife. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 reiterated that it would reinforce efforts to meet the 2010 Biodiversity Target to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

The G8 said they would work towards the completion of the negotiation on the international regime on access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Energy

The G8 countries reaffirmed their commitment to launch 20 large-scale carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration projects globally by 2010. In order to reach this target they agreed to accelerate the design of policies, regulatory frameworks and incentive schemes focused on the development and deployment of CCS technology; encourage greater involvement of developing countries by promoting collaboration and knowledge diffusion, also through regional roundtables organized by the International Energy Agency (IEA); work to identify sources of financing for CCS demonstration projects; invite the IEA, together with the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF), to report on and further develop technology roadmaps and to work with the private sector to accelerate the construction and operation of demonstration projects. The leaders welcome the work on criteria by the IEA to facilitate tracking of global progress on these projects in view of an update to be presented at the summit in 2010; and identify investment needs and overcome obstacles, including the potential development of innovative partnerships with multilateral financial institutions. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

In 2009 the leaders noted that energy poverty remains widespread in many areas, most notably in Africa and Asia. They supported the launch, together with interested countries,

of the Expert-Level Working Group on Energy Poverty following the proposal made at the G8 energy ministers meeting in Rome, and encouraged the working group to submit a report before the 2010 Muskoka Summit. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Nonproliferation

Stopping the spread of nuclear weapons and corralling components for a dirty bomb terror attack could become a top agenda item for the Canadian-hosted G8 summit in June. Canada is being urged to offer the summit as an international platform to highlight the nuclear threats posed by Iran and North Korea, as well as terrorists acquiring the components for a nuclear dirty bomb. A recent report submitted to the U.S. Congress predicted a nuclear or biological dirty bomb commandeered by terrorists will be used by 2013. The U.S. and Russia both support placing the issue of nuclear stockpiles on the agenda. "We discussed it with Canada," said Georgiy Mamedov, the Russian ambassador to Canada and a former chief arms control negotiator. "I expect Canada to play a leading and very important role in providing incentives for other countries to abide by [the] NPT treaty." Mamedov said non-proliferation could be "a staple of the G8 meeting because we are all concerned about the speedy proliferation of weapons of mass destruction." In particular, Mamedov said security officials in Canada and elsewhere are worried about the threat posed if nuclear material fell into terrorists' hands. "When we speak with special services in Canada and elsewhere, which I do in my line of job, and I ask them: what do you believe is the immediate real threat in your country in terms of terrorism? They will place at the head of their list, [the] possibility of terrorists obtaining some dirty bomb."⁵ (January 4, 2010, *Canadian Press*)

The G8 said they would work collectively to achieve a successful outcome of the 2010 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 reiterated that they would work together so that the 2010 NPT Review Conference could successfully strengthen the treaty's regime and set realistic and achievable goals in its three pillars. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit).

The G8 noted that while the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) has not yet reached consensus on the issue, its discussions yielded useful and constructive proposals contained in the NSG's "clean text" developed at the 20 November 2008 Consultative Group meeting. Pending completion of work in the NSG, the G8 agree to implement this text on a national basis in 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

⁵ *Canadian Press* (January 4, 2010), "Canada may use G8 summit to battle spread of nuclear weapons, dirty bomb."

Africa

Economy

The G8 leaders reiterated the importance of fulfilling their commitments to increase aid that were made at Gleneagles, and reaffirmed at Heiligendamm and Toyako. For Africa, this should include increasing, together with other donors official development assistance (ODA) by \$25 billion a year by 2010, compared to 2004. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

The OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) estimated that the combined commitments of G8 and other donors would increase overall ODA by around \$50 billion a year by 2010 compared to 2004. But the G8 said it will continue to provide debt relief according to the Enhanced HIPC Initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and the Paris Club's Evian Approach. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit).

The G8 asked the African Development Bank, in cooperation with the OECD, to systematically monitor the interaction between aid flows, growth and domestic tax capacity development in Africa and to report back at the 2010 summit. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit).

Development

The OECD's DAC estimated the global increase of ODA by 2010 at around \$50 billion a year. The G8 remains firmly committed to working to fulfill commitments on ODA made at Gleneagles, and reaffirmed at Heiligendamm, including increasing, compared to 2004, with other donors, ODA to Africa by \$25 billion a year by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2005 UK-hosted Gleneagles Summit, and reiterated at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit and the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 commended the successful replenishments of the resources of the International Development Association, the African Development Fund and the Asian Development Fund in which the G8 countries provided nearly 75% of donor's contributions and they acknowledge that ODA from G8 and other donors to Africa should be reassessed and may need to be increased for the period after 2010, beyond their current commitments. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 leaders tasked a senior level working group to devise, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, a broader, comprehensive and consistent methodology for reporting, with a focus on their development activities and development-related areas, with attention to results. A report is to be delivered in 2010 at the Muskoka Summit in Canada. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

The G8 leaders asked for an international assessment, in 2010, on what is needed in order

to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Peace Support

The G8 is committed to providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations were able to engage more effectively to prevent and resolve violent conflict on the continent, and undertake peace support operations in accordance with the United Nations Charter — including by continuing to work with African partners to deliver a joint plan, by 2003, for the development of African capability to undertake peace support operations, including at the regional level. (Commitment pledged at the 2002 Canadian-hosted Kananaskis Summit)

The G8 is committed to providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations were able to engage more effectively to prevent and resolve violent conflict on the continent, and undertake peace support operations in accordance with the United Nations Charter — including by training African peace support forces including through the development of regional centres of excellence for military and civilian aspects of conflict prevention and peace support, such as the Kofi Annan International Peace Training Centre. (Commitment pledged at the 2002 Canadian-hosted Kananaskis Summit)

The G8 is committed to providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations were able to engage more effectively to prevent and resolve violent conflict on the continent, and undertake peace support operations in accordance with the United Nations Charter — including by better coordinating peacekeeping training initiatives. (Commitment pledged at the 2002 Canadian-hosted Kananaskis Summit)

The G8 pledged to undertake specific activities and coordinate efforts closely to ensure the maximum benefit to members' partners and members themselves. Therefore, they committed, consistent with their national laws, to train and, where appropriate, equip a total of approximately 75,000 troops worldwide by 2010, in line with commitments undertaken at Kananaskis and Evian. This effort was to have a sustained focus on Africa and other nations that could contribute to peace support operations both in Africa and elsewhere. (Commitment pledged at the 2004 U.S.-hosted Sea Island Summit)

The G8 stated that they undertake specific activities and coordinate their efforts closely to ensure the maximum benefit to their partners and their selves. Therefore, they committed, consistent with their national laws, to build peace support operations capabilities in other regions by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2004 U.S.-hosted Sea Island Summit)

The G8 backed the African Union and the other African institutions that need to continue to develop their capacity for promoting lasting peace and stability on the continent. The G8 reported progress with their Sea Island commitment to train and, where appropriate equip, some 75,000 troops by 2010 to take part in peace support operations worldwide,

with a sustained focus on Africa. (Commitment pledged at the 2005 UK-hosted Gleneagles Summit)

The G8 said they would build capacity for peace support operations including providing quality training to and equipping troops by 2010, with focus on Africa, as well as enhance logistics and transportation support for deployment. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 tasked experts to elaborate further specific proposals to strengthen capacities and coordination mechanism for peace and security in Africa by the 2010 summit. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit).

Health

The G8 supported the initiative to “Roll Back Malaria” to relieve the suffering experienced by hundreds of millions of people, and significantly reduce the death rate from malaria by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 1998 UK-hosted Birmingham Summit)

The G8 pledged to work in strengthened partnership with governments, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations, industry (notably pharmaceutical companies), academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and other relevant actors in civil society to deliver three critical United Nations targets including reducing the number of HIV/AIDS-infected young people by 25% by 2010; reducing tuberculosis deaths and prevalence of the disease by 50% by 2010; and reducing the burden of disease associated with malaria by 50% by 2010. (Commitments pledged at the 2000 Japanese-hosted Okinawa Summit)

The G8 committed, with the aim of an AIDS-free generation in Africa, to significantly reducing HIV infections and working with WHO, UNAIDS and other international bodies to develop and implement a package for HIV prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of as close as possible to universal access to treatment for all those who need it by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2005 UK-hosted Gleneagles Summit)

The G8 committed to fulfill prior G8 commitments on the major infectious diseases, in particular by mobilizing support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria; continuing to pursue as close as possible to universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment for all who need it by 2010; supporting the Global Plan to Stop TB; providing resources in cooperation with African countries to scale up action against malaria; continuing to expand the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise; and continuing their support for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative so that the planet can be declared polio-free within the next few years. (Commitment pledged at the 2006 Russian-hosted St. Petersburg Summit)

The G8 reaffirmed their commitment to work with African countries to scale up malaria control interventions, reduce the burden of the disease, and eventually defeat malaria on

the continent and meet the Abuja target of halving the burden of malaria by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2006 Russian-hosted St. Petersburg Summit)

The G8 reaffirmed their commitments to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and agreed to work further with other donors to mobilize resources for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and to continuing to pursue as closely as possible to universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment for those who need it by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2006 Russian-hosted St. Petersburg Summit)

The G8 countries committed to scaling up their efforts to contribute toward the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programs, treatment and care and support by 2010 for all, and to developing and strengthening health systems so that health care, especially primary health care, can be provided on a sustainable and equitable basis in order to reduce illness and mortality, with particular attention paid to the needs of those most vulnerable to infection, including adolescent girls, women and children. (Commitment pledged at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit)

The G8 recognized that the level of demand to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria would increase substantially in the future as had been projected by the Global Fund's board. Noting the conclusions of the 2007 meeting of the board, which estimated an additional demand approximately of \$6 billion by 2010, which might possibly reach \$8 billion, the G8 members pledged to work with other donors to replenish the Global Fund and to provide long-term predictable funding based on ambitious, but realistic demand-driven targets. (Commitment pledged at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit)

In the overall context of scaling up towards the goal of universal access and strengthening of health systems the G8 promised to contribute substantially with other donors to work toward the goal of providing universal coverage of programs for preventing mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of disease by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit)

The G8, together with other donors, pledged to work toward meeting the needed resources for pediatric treatments in the context of universal access, at a cost of \$1.8 billion until 2010, estimated by UNICEF. (Commitment pledged at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit)

The G8 reaffirmed its commitment to scaling up toward "universal access" to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care by 2010 and recognized the significant progress made by countries on target setting and planning, notably concerning enhanced availability of affordable antiretroviral treatment. (Commitment pledged at the 2007 German-hosted Heiligendamm Summit)

The G8 members stated that they are determined to honour in full their specific commitments to fight infectious diseases, namely malaria, tuberculosis, polio and

working toward the goal of universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care by 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

As part of fulfilling past commitments on malaria, the G8 said they will continue to expand access to long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, with a view to providing 100 million nets through bilateral and multilateral assistance, in partnership with other stakeholders by the end of 2010. (Commitment pledged at the 2008 Japanese-hosted Hokkaido Toyako Summit)

The G8 promised to implement further efforts toward universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010, with particular focus on prevention and integration of services for HIV and tuberculosis. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Terrorism

Canada wants to push aid and counterterrorism for Yemen onto the G8 agenda as a way to help extremism taking place in parts of the world. The link between a plot to blow up a U.S.-bound airliner on Christmas day and Yemen-based al Qaeda has highlighted terrorism threats from the nation. In early January, Yemen's foreign minister, Abubakar al-Qirbi, was in Canada pressing for aid for education and economic development, which he said would help the country combat extremism and terrorism. Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon said he was going to try to put Yemen on the agenda of the upcoming G8 foreign ministers meeting. "As co-ordinator of the G8 ... I have asked for my political director to raise the issue of counterterrorism at that meeting, and see how we can best move forward."⁶ (January 19, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

Outreach and Expansion

Russia has called for the G20 to take over whatever economic issues that remain on the G8 agenda and for the G8 to become a chiefly political association. "A considerable part of the economic dossier of the G8 has gone over to the G20, and this is correct. It would be logical if the rest of the economic agenda of the G8 flowed over to the G20," said foreign ministry spokesman Andrei Nesterenko. However, the G8 "is too early to be written off ... The main change that, in our view, the G8 should undergo is increasing its attention to political issues and more frank and open discussions on strategic trends and the evolution of global politics and the system of global governance." Nesterenko insisted that nonproliferation, global threats and regional stability top the G8's political agenda for 2010.⁷ (December 29, 2009, *Russia & CIS General Newsire*)

In the lead-up to the Japanese-hosted APEC summit in November 2009, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper was said that Japan and Canada share a "strong interest" in

⁶ *Globe and Mail* (January 19, 2010), "Cannon seeks to get Yemen on G8 agenda."

⁷ *Russia & CIS General Newsire* (December 29, 2009), "Russia wants G8 to be chiefly political body."

maintaining the G8 framework. He said the G8 will continue to be a useful grouping.⁸ (November 14, 2009, *Kyodo News*)

Jonathan Fried, Canada's ambassador to Japan, said he believes that the G20 will not replace the G8 countries as a key global forum to address various challenges. "The G8 and the G20 have coexisted successfully among finance ministers since 1999," Fried said at the Japan National Press Club.⁹ (December 8, 2008, *Kyodo News*)

The G8 instructed the Heiligendamm L'Aquila Process (HAP) steering committee to organize the necessary actions and to prepare a substantive report for the Muskoka Summit in 2010, where they will review progress and provide guidance for the next steps of the G8 and G5's common work. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Accountability Mechanism

The G8 leaders stated their commitment to implementing their decisions, and to adopting a full and comprehensive accountability mechanism by 2010 to monitor progress and strengthen the effectiveness of their actions. (Commitment pledged at the 2009 Italian-hosted L'Aquila Summit)

Process: The Physical Summit

On December 7, 2009, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper announced that the G20 would take place in Toronto, Ontario on June 26-27. The G20 will follow the G8 summit taking place in Huntsville, Ontario, on June 25-26.¹⁰ (December 7, 2009, *Office of the Prime Minister*)

The location for the June G20 summit has not yet been announced. "No decision has been made on the location," said Sarah MacIntyre, a spokesperson for Canadian prime minister Harper. The G20 summit will be preceded by the G8 summit. Canadian minister of industry Tony Clement is pushing the government to host the G20 in Huntsville. However, RCMP Commission William Elliot said that hosting the G20 in Huntsville would be "difficult if not impossible." Toronto is the other option that is being pursued.¹¹ (November 19, 2009, *Globe and Mail*)

A \$50 million federal fund set up to build infrastructure for Canada's G8 summit is apparently being spent partly on projects that far from the summit site. Industry minister Tony Clement announced the low-profile fund last February, explaining that the fund was

⁸ *Kyodo News* (November 14, 2009), "Canada wants firm tie-up with Japan next year as chairs of G-8, APEC."

⁹ *Kyodo News* (December 8, 2008), "Canadian envoy does not foresee G-20 replacing G-8 as major forum."

¹⁰ *Office of the Prime Minister* (December 7, 2009), "PM announces G-20 leaders will meet in Toronto in 2010." Available from: <<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&id=3026>>

¹¹ *The Globe and Mail* (November 19, 2009), "Seven months to go, G20 site still up in the air."

being “provided for G8 Summit related infrastructure, including a G8 Centre in Huntsville.” Huntsville has received the largest share of the money, mainly \$16.7 million for a new G8 Centre, \$9 million for a summit management office and \$2.4 million for improvements to the road by the resort where the meeting is to take place. But a partial list of the fund’s projects, and a series of news releases, shows that many of the towns in Clement’s riding are receiving money from the fund to build band shells, plant gardens and put up signs and lights. A spokesman for Clement said the money is well spent. The summit is expected to draw huge crowds from all over the world, and they will be staying in neighbouring towns, not just in Huntsville. It’s uncertain whether the leaders and their delegations will stick with their original plan of getting to Huntsville by flying to North Bay, Ontario. The airport there is receiving \$5 million from the G8 Infrastructure Fund. But there are concerns that, with only one runway, it won’t be big enough to handle so many foreign dignitaries, and that Toronto’s airport is better equipped and more secure.¹² (October 27, 2009, *Canadian Press*)

In June 2009, Tony Clement, Canada’s minister of industry, announced more than \$2 million in federal funding for beautification projects and infrastructure upgrades in communities near the location of the Muskoka Summit, including Bracebridge. Funding will come from the G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund, set up to benefit civic projects in the Parry Sound-Muskoka area in advance of the 2010 G8 summit. “As the administrative seat of the Muskoka region, it’s vital that Bracebridge look its best for our visitors attending next year’s Summit,” said Clement. “Through strategic investments in local infrastructure, we are ensuring that the region makes the most of the economic opportunities that hosting this prestigious event will yield.” Jim Walden, mayor of nearby Georgian Bay, said “Working with provincial and federal representatives has been consultative and cooperative, and we’ve created a strategy that will serve the requirements of both the G8 Summit and the Building Canada Plan. I am so pleased for the residents of this township, who have given overwhelming support to our development plans in this area.” The \$50 million G8 Legacy Infrastructure Fund was founded in February 2009 and is dedicated to legacy projects in the Parry Sound-Muskoka area.¹³ (June 15, 2009, *Marketwire*)

Tony Clement announced that \$50 million in federal support will be provided for G8-related infrastructure, which will include a G8 centre in Huntsville. “I am pleased that the town of Huntsville, Ontario, will be the location of the G8 Centre, and that the government of Canada will invest in this state-of-the-art facility that will help showcase our region and our country to the world,” he said. “This project will help create jobs and boost the economy in the Muskoka region, as well as provide the town with a modern sports and recreation facility that will serve the community for generations to come.” The 2010 G8 summit will provide short- and long-term economic benefits for the region and the province, and will be an exceptional opportunity for Canada to showcase its values and interests. “This type of infrastructure will be a huge economic generator for our whole region, both during and after construction,” said Huntsville mayor Claude Doughty. The G8 centre is expected to cost about \$20 million, entirely funded by Canada

¹² *Canadian Press* (October 27, 2009), “G8 money lands far from Huntsville, Ont., meeting site.”

¹³ *Marketwire* (June 15, 2009), “Industry Canada: Bracebridge Gets Ready for 2010 G8 Summit.”

as part of its contribution to the region for its part in hosting the meeting. Other initiatives will be announced later. Clement also announced that the Government of Canada will provide \$5,288,300 for a safety improvement project at the North Bay Airport to rehabilitate the main runway and three taxiways.¹⁴ (February 6, 2009, *Marketwire*)

Huntsville was chosen after a Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade study deemed the 800-acre Deerhurst Resort an excellent site for the event. The location was chosen based on the need for appropriate accommodation and meeting facilities, good transportation links, including proximity to major airports, and acceptable security conditions. The study took costs into account, as well as the prospect of minimal disruption for local residents and businesses.¹⁵ (November 1, 2008, *Industry Canada*)

Site: Location Reaction

Support staff, security and media are expected to be between 3,000 and 5,000 for the G8 summit in 2010. A manager from the Deerhurst Resort says that the area was chosen because it is secluded, easy to secure and easy to access from major centres such as North Bay and Barrie, where the overflow will be accommodated. Executive chef Rory Golden has already begun to strategize what he would like to serve the world leaders. “My goal is to focus on local food,” Golden said. “It would be lovely if they could all go home with a sampling of maple syrup right from the resort.” There are expectations that things such as communications systems across the resort will undergo major upgrades before the summiteers arrive.¹⁶ (September 20, 2008, *Toronto Star*)

During the September 2008 Canadian election campaign, Michael Ignatieff — member of Parliament and the Liberal Party leadership candidate — announced that the 2010 G8 summit would continue to be held at Deerhurst Resort under a Liberal government if the government changed. He also indicated that the cost of hosting such an international event would not fall on Muskoka taxpayers’ property tax bill. “We want to make it very clear to all the residents of this riding that when we are the government of Canada, the next G8 Summit will be held at Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville,” he said. “And all rumours to the contrary, all disinformation that we would cancel this important project are absolutely false. You heard it from me: the G8 Summit will be in this community when we form the next government.” Speaking of the security and infrastructure costs, Ignatieff said additional costs have to be taken by the federal government because it relates to Canada’s international affairs. During the meeting, a press release from Tony Clement’s re-election campaign was released accusing Ignatieff of grandstanding in Gravenhurst. “The G8 will be a meeting of the world’s leaders in 2010,” Clement said in the release. “It appears that Ignatieff is already envisioning himself and his hoped-for role

¹⁴ *Marketwire* (February 6, 2009), “Canada Makes Important Investments in Huntsville in Preparation for the 2010 G8 Summit.”

¹⁵ *Industry Canada* (November 1, 2008), “Minister Clement Announces Date of the 2010 G8 Summit.” Available from:
<<http://www.ic.gc.ca/cmb/welcomeic.nsf/0/85256a5d006b9720852574f400756fa1?OpenDocument> >
Accessed 2 November 2008.

¹⁶ *Toronto Star* (September 20, 2008), “Deerhurst gets ready to step up onto the world stage: Warm—and sweet—welcome awaits world’s top leaders coming her for G8 summit in 2010.”

at this summit as the next leader of the Liberal Party.”¹⁷ (September 17, 2008, *Gravenhurst Banner*)

In July 2008 there were already rumours that the 2010 G8 summit will bring screaming fighter jets to the skies, a town-wide security lockdown and runs on the local supermarkets. There was speculation that cottage rental rates would quadruple, youthful indiscretions will be exposed by invasive background checks and that heads of state would arrive by water planes on Peninsula Lake. Most of the 18,500 residents are proud that their town won over federal officials, who spent months choosing an appropriate venue — idyllic, secluded and easy to secure. They also have high hopes that the event will affix Muskoka firmly on the global map. But the ordinary affluent weekenders who give Huntsville its seasonal crowds and soaring real-estate prices, and the year-rounders who greet their arrival with layered gratitude and tolerance, are responding with varying degrees of enthusiasm. “It’ll be so exciting, even the protesters,” said Sandra Rae, a retiree from Mississauga who used to run a resort with her husband on Oxtongue Lake. “People think economically it will be a positive thing,” said Anne Smith, 57, owner of the Bookcase bookstore in downtown Huntsville. Not all business owners are anticipating a windfall, however. Tom Walsh fears security measures on the highway and in the surrounding lakes will hamper his business. “We’re looking at high security [in the area],” said Geordie Heath, 30, a paramedic with three small children. “It’s not something the kids need to be exposed to. It’s more of a burden than anything.”¹⁸ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

Images of thousands of protesters clashing with police officers in riot gear at the 2001 Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, where 400 people were arrested and 300 police officers were injured, are fuelling anxiety in Huntsville. That same year, police shot and killed a protester at the G8 summit in the Italian port city of Genoa. “It’s not the meeting that’s a concern,” said Alex Kudryk, 57, a retired Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officer. “It’s the people who follow it around and its reputation for violence that are a concern.” While violence has been virtually absent at the G8 since 2002 due to enhanced security and the isolation of the conference venues, the concern is still valid. “You have interest groups from all over descending on your community, scoping it out, a year or two in advance,” says Gillian Brown-Dettmer, an auditor at the Huntsville Comfort Inn who witnessed preparations for the 2005 G8 at the Gleneagles Hotel in Scotland. “It’s going to be a great opportunity for this community, but the people have no idea what’s coming.” Huntsville mayor Claude Doughty said that he has not been briefed by the federal government on security, noting that a date has not even been set for the summit. At the same time, he acknowledged hearing that federal officials are reticent to limit air travel over Toronto and said scuttlebutt about a two-kilometre lockdown around Deerhurst “makes sense.” “There won’t be any rocket launchers on Fairy Lake,” said Mr. Doughty,

¹⁷ *Gravenhurst Banner* (September 17, 2008), “Ignatieff targets MP’s record, commits to G8 in Muskoka.” (Accessed 22 September 2008). Available from:

<http://www.gravenhurstbanner.com/muskokanews/article/116395>

¹⁸ *The Global and Mail* (July 12, 2008), “Brace yourselves, Huntsville; Locals will face security lockdowns, heads of state — and a run on souvenirs. The town has two years to get ready.”

who lives on the lake that abuts Huntsville and is lobbying for a June summit to offset the high tourist season in July and August.¹⁹ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

There are also worries about whether infrastructure, from roads to hospitals to jails, can handle the 5,000 journalists, several thousand protesters, and tens of thousands of political and security aides that are standard G8 baggage. There are plans to upgrade roads and hospital facilities, and discussions are under way to add bus and train service to reduce traffic congestion.²⁰ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

On June 19, 2008, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper announced that the 2010 G8 Summit would be held at the Deerhurst Resort in Huntsville. "Huntsville is a jewel in the Canadian Shield and an ideal location for this gathering of world leaders," said Prime Minister Harper. "Our international guests will be charmed by the uniquely Canadian beauty of the region and by the warm hospitality of Muskokans."²¹ (June 19, 2008, *Prime Minister of Canada*)

Security

On August 8, 2008, six English-speaking men who appeared to be of Middle Eastern origin, arrived at a lodge in Huntsville and participated in a number of activities that had employees asking questions. The men had wandered down to the water and when told it was not a public beach, the men asked if they could stay anyway. An employee told them that they would need to take a room in order to stay, so the men asked for a single room with one bed and paid by credit card. The men then inquired about taking a ride in the lodge's pontoon boat and the employees agreed when the men said they would pay for the gas. Only one man went on the boat and he asked the driver to encircle the point on which Deerhurst lies. He wanted a photograph each opening, with Deerhurst always in the background. At approximately 17:30, after it started to rain, the men left, with the room they had paid for untouched. Lodge owner Doug Howell later began to wonder what had just occurred, but one of his staff warned him to beware of "racial profiling." He contacted the OPP, who in turn contacted the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).²² (August 25, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

In his announcement, Prime Minister Stephen Harper described the region's "uniquely Canadian beauty," saying it would be an ideal place for the G8 leaders to meet. But Deerhurst Resort also possesses qualities similar to every summit location since the last hosted by Canada in 2002 in Kananaskis, Alberta, which set the standard for post-9/11 summits. Bound by water to the east and south, the 316-hectare resort is only accessible by two main roads, simplifying security. Its private airstrip and proximity to Muskoka

¹⁹ *The Global and Mail* (July 12, 2008), "Brace yourselves, Huntsville; Locals will face security lockdowns, heads of state — and a run on souvenirs. The town has two years to get ready."

²⁰ *The Global and Mail* (July 12, 2008), "Brace yourselves, Huntsville; Locals will face security lockdowns, heads of state — and a run on souvenirs. The town has two years to get ready."

²¹ *Prime Minister of Canada* (June 19, 2008), "Prime minister announces Canada to host 2010 G8 Summit in Huntsville." Available from: <<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&id=2155>> Accessed 13 August 2008.

²² *Globe and Mail* (August 25, 2008), "Curios tales emerge about site of lakeside 2010 G8 summit."

Airport may also preclude restricting airspace around Toronto, 225 kilometers away.²³ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

Economic Benefits and Costs

Benefits

The Canadian government has issued approximately CA\$50 million in funds toward a variety of infrastructure projects in the Muskoka region to prepare for the June G8 summit that will take place in Huntsville. This includes \$28.1 million for the expansion of the Huntsville Centennial Centre and Summit Management Office; \$100,000 in road upgrades in Perry; \$274,850 for improvements to band shell and new public washrooms in Lake of Bays; \$1.45 million for signage and downtown improvements in Bracebridge; \$730,000 for renovations to a bridge, main street and the town centre in Kearney; \$150,000 for downtown improvements in Burk's Falls; \$650,000 for roadwork and signage in Bala Falls; \$745,000 for improvements to downtown areas, new signage, fencing and landscaping in Rosseau, Humphrey and Orrville; \$1.2 million in downtown improvements in Gravenhurst; \$875,000 for new sidewalks and various civic improvements in Sundridge; \$410,000 for upgrades to Minett's Paignton House Road in Muskoka Lakes Township; \$65,000 for landscaping in South River; \$894,000 for upgrades to street and signage in Parry Sound; \$2 million for signage, streetscaping and park improvement in Port Seven; \$5 million for improvement to the Jack Garland Airport in North Bay; and \$300,000 in upgrades to Highway 11.²⁴ (January 19, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

Canada's past experience hosting G8 summits has shown that they are substantial short-term economic benefits for the host community and surrounding region, plus long-term tourism-related benefits resulting from international media exposure. The 2002 Kananaskis Summit generated an estimate \$300 million in short-term regional economic benefits.²⁵ (November 1, 2008, *Industry Canada*)

A man on Fairy Lake is telling people he expects to rent out his luxurious property for \$100,000 during the 2010 summit. Around Pen Lake there is talk that a major U.S. network will be taking over another fancy cottage for a price of \$65,000. As much as \$300 million is expected to flow into the local economy around the summit, but it largely depends on the time of year that the summit will occur. A fall summit would show off the area in its red-orange-and-yellow best. A spring summit would mean far fewer protesters and police clogging up the few roads that locals dread being plugged. If the summit occurs in the prime summer months, then the summit will contribute money to the area, but it will also detract from the money it would have made through 'normal' tourism,

²³ *The Global and Mail* (July 12, 2008), "Brace yourselves, Huntsville; Locals will face security lockdowns, heads of state — and a run on souvenirs. The town has two years to get ready."

²⁴ *Globe and Mail* (January 19, 2010), "\$50-million in infrastructure for a one-day summit."

²⁵ *Industry Canada* (November 1, 2008), "Minister Clement Announces Date of the 2010 G8 Summit." Available from:

<<http://www.ic.gc.ca/cmb/welcomeic.nsf/0/85256a5d006b9720852574f400756fa1?OpenDocument> >
Accessed 2 November 2008.

meaning there would be no ‘additional’ benefit to having the summit.²⁶ (August 25, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

History suggests the economic impact of the conference will be significant. The 2002 conference reportedly pumped some \$300 million into Kananaskis, Alberta. Real estate agents are speculating that upscale cottages that rent for between \$5,000 and \$10,000 a week could fetch as much as \$25,000. Sheila Givens, whose Cottages on the Web specializes in private rentals, got her first of several calls within hours of news breaking about the summit. One caller, an owner of a five-bedroom waterfront cottage on Bella Lake that Ms. Givens estimated would normally rent for between \$5,000 and \$6,000 a week, was seeking \$10,000 the week of the summit. Sue Burke, another sales agent, said she heard from the owner of an opulent cottage on Lake of Bays who does not rent and is contemplating asking for \$25,000. Deerhurst boasts accommodations for 1,000 people in 400 rooms and suites, many of which are privately owned or blocked by timeshares. Rates for suites overlooking Peninsula Lake can exceed \$650 a night.²⁷ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

Canadian prime minister Harper observed that Huntsville and the rest of Parry Sound-Muskoka will benefit from the significant economic activity associated with the Summit, noting the 2002 G8 summit in Kananaskis generated an estimated \$300 million for the regional economy. Prime Minister Stephen Harper added that the international media attending the summit would introduce millions of potential tourists to the many attractions of Ontario cottage country. “The 2010 G8 Summit will provide short and long-term economic benefits for the region and the province, and it will be an exceptional opportunity for Canada to advance its values and interests on the world stage,” Prime Minister Harper concluded.²⁸ (June 19, 2008, *Prime Minister of Canada*)

Costs

The 2002 Kananaskis Summit came with a price. Security reportedly cost taxpayers in excess of \$200 million.²⁹ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

Ministerial Meetings

G7 Finance Ministers

Russia will likely not participate in the G7 finance ministers meeting on February 5-6. “Canada was not intending to invite us and we have not yet received an invitation,”

²⁶ *Globe and Mail* (August 25, 2008), “Curios tales emerge about site of lakeside 2010 G8 summit.”

²⁷ *The Global and Mail* (July 12, 2008), “Brace yourselves, Huntsville; Locals will face security lockdowns, heads of state — and a run on souvenirs. The town has two years to get ready.”

²⁸ *Prime Minister of Canada* (June 19, 2008), “Prime minister announces Canada to host 2010 G8 Summit in Huntsville.” Available from: <<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&id=2155>> Accessed 13 August 2008.

²⁹ *The Global and Mail* (July 12, 2008), “Brace yourselves, Huntsville; Locals will face security lockdowns, heads of state — and a run on souvenirs. The town has two years to get ready.”

Russian deputy finance minister Dmitry Pankin said. “This is not the gauntlet being thrown down to Russia; it is not a political act connected with a reduction in Russia’s role. It is connected with a change in the format of the G8. If previously the finance ministers discussed serious issues and adopted some communiqués then, now it will simply be a get-together,” he continued. Pankin’s suggested that future finance ministers meetings may take place without Russia. At the same time, he did not rule out that Russia could take part in subsequent meetings of the G8 finance ministers.³⁰ (January 13, 2010, *BBC Monitoring Former Soviet Union*)

Japanese finance minister Naoto Kan and U.S. treasury secretary Tim Geithner have agreed that Japan and the U.S. will work together with the other G7 countries to ensure stability in the currency market. Both Kan and Geithner are planning to attend the G7 finance ministers meeting scheduled for February 5-6. After discussions with Geithner, Kan said “We had general discussion on the currency market ... We talked about the need to ensure stability in the market.” The statement issued by the G7 finance ministers and central bank governors after their Istanbul meeting said: “Excess volatility and disorderly movements in exchange rates have adverse implications for economic and financial stability ... We continue to monitor exchange markets closely, and cooperate as appropriate.”³¹ (January 11, 2010, *Kyodo News*)

Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty said he discussed Greece’s ratings downgrade with his G7 counterparts and that they were all concerned with the country’s fiscal stability. “We share the concern with fiscal stability in Greece, and not only Greece,” he said. He did not identify the other countries, referring instead to “banking difficulties” in some European countries, adding that there are “some European countries that still have some banks with toxic assets that have not reconciled those assets.” Flaherty said the role of the G7, financial-sector reform and mutual assessment of financial systems are the key topics on the agenda of the G7 finance ministers and central bank governors when they meet in Canada in February. They will also talk about implementation of the so-called sustainability framework that G20 leaders agreed to at the Pittsburgh Summit. The group will also discuss stimulus exit strategies. “We’re all agreed that we should talk about exit strategies and coordinate our efforts, but not implement until it’s clear that we have a sound economic recovery,” Flaherty said. He also expects the group to talk about currencies. He said some Asian currencies “do not move in a market way.” He added: “We would like to see more currencies as market currencies. We think that would assist with global imbalances ... I expect that the currency issues will be talked about because they’re important to the macroeconomic policy in the world, but perhaps more so in the G20 in June.” Flaherty said the group does not plan to issue a communiqué but there will likely be a chair’s statement of some kind. “We’re trying to get the G7 back to what it was originally, and that is a fireside-chat type of meeting ... We want to get back to sweaters and fireplaces and being able to speak frankly with each other and not the formal kind of meeting.”³² (December 22, 2009, *Dow Jones News Service*)

³⁰ *BBC Monitoring Former Soviet Union* (January 13, 2010), “Russia not to take part in Canada G8 meeting in February-deputy minister.”

³¹ *Kyodo News* (January 11, 2010), “Kan, Geithner confirm G-7 accord to ensure stability in forex.”

³² *Dow Jones News Service* (December 22, 2009), “Flaherty: Talked About Greece with G7 Counterparts.”

The G7 finance ministers will meet on February 5-6 in Iqaluit, in Canada's Arctic. Canadian finance minister Flaherty has framed the location as a true taste of Canada. "I don't know if you've been to Iqaluit in the middle of winter — I have. And it's the most beautiful scene I've ever seen in Canada." Flaherty has not yet confirmed whether Russia would be invited to the meeting.³³ (November 19, 2009, *Globe and Mail*)

In early October, Canadian finance minister Flaherty announced that the G7 finance ministers would meet in Canada in early February 2010.³⁴ (October 7, 2009, *Reuters News*)

In October 2009 the G7 finance ministers agreed that starting in 2011 it would only meet informally when issues of mutual interest arise. This decision means that the ministers will return to the original G7 concept of holding a "fireside chat" when the members decide mutually there is something pressing to discuss. UK finance minister Alistair Darling said: "We felt it might be better to meet more informally with less of an entourage so that we can have more detailed and business-like meetings." He added that there was still a need for the G7 but "the main focus will be the G20 for some time to come." Meetings will take place without outsiders and the G7 will only issue communiqués when it feels it has something to say. Darling and French finance minister Christine Lagarde pushed the idea through at the G7 meeting held in Istanbul, with the only opposition coming from Italy. France will put the new system into force when it takes the chair of the G7 in 2011, with the G20 given the key role in global economic governance. G20 finance ministers will meet just ahead of the spring and autumn IMF gatherings.³⁵ (October 5, 2009, *Guardian Unlimited*)

G20 Finance Ministers

The G20 finance ministers will meet in early June 2010. "It's possible we might have another meeting around the spring IMF meetings in Washington ... as [the] G20 because all the ministers will be there," Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty said.³⁶ (October 7, 2009, *Reuters News*)

G8 Foreign Ministers

In November 2009, the G8 foreign ministers released a statement on Afghanistan's election. The ministers "welcome[d] the conclusion of Afghanistan's self managed election process" and "congratulate[d] the people of Afghanistan and President Hamid Karzai on the result." They "encourage[d] President Karzai, in the intent to unite the country, to rapidly form an effective, qualified and credible new government ... As soon as the new Government will be appointed, the G8 countries look forward to developing a sustained and more advanced dialogue through the existing channels with the Afghan

³³ *Globe and Mail* (November 19, 2009), "Iqaluit in February? G7 ministers better bundle up."

³⁴ *Reuters News* (October 7, 2009), "Canada to host G7 finance ministers early February."

³⁵ *Guardian Unlimited* (October 5, 2009), "G7 makes way for G20 and emerging nations."

³⁶ ³⁶ *Reuters News* (October 7, 2009), "Canada to host G7 finance ministers early February."

authorities. The G8 remains therefore committed to supporting the process aiming at a transition of responsibilities in view of the Afghan governance and to the ultimate benefit of the Afghan people.”³⁷ (November 10, 2009, *RIA Oreanda*)

Canada will host a G8 foreign ministers meeting in March 2010, foreign minister Lawrence Cannon announced. The meeting will be held on March 29-30 in Gatineau, Quebec. “During the meeting, the ministers will discuss the major issues that threaten international peace and security, while continuing to promote respect for freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law.”³⁸ (November 6, 2009, *Xinhua News Agency*)

Civil Society

Celebrity Diplomacy

The world’s wealthiest countries must maintain their foreign aid in the face of the current economic crisis or risk creating a “human crisis,” musician and activist Bob Geldof said. Before accepting an international humanitarian award from a Winnipeg hospital foundation, the former lead singer of the Boomtown Rats and the founder of Live Aid said, “Governments are always looking for an opportunity to cut the little bit that they give anyway towards the poor part of the world but that’s very short-termist ... The issue at hand is not to turn the financial crisis into a human crisis.” International aid is such a tiny part of any national budget, Geldof added. Countries such as Canada have promised to dedicate less than 1 percent of their national budgets before 2010, he said. “That means that for all their domestic travails, they’ve only got 99.95 left to deal with their domestic problems,” Geldof said. “Is that not enough? If it isn’t enough, then that government is a failure.” Although Geldof praised Canada for initially proposing G8 nations dedicate a small portion of their national budgets to help alleviate poverty in Africa, he said Canada now seems to be the “most reluctant” of all the G8 countries to hand over that small percentage of their federal budget. “Canada is suffering as a result of the decline in the commodity’s boom, so is Australia. But Africa is devastated because the vast repository of the world’s commodities are in that continent,” he said. “I don’t believe that when Canadians say something, they don’t mean it. Ultimately, the promise of the powerful to the weak is the most sacred promise you can make. When the rich make a promise to the poor, it’s critical because when you break it, you kill them.”³⁹ (December 4, 2008, *Waterloo Region Record*)

Activities

The Council of Churches is organizing what may be the biggest ever such gathering of religious leaders from around the world in the lead-up to the annual G8 summit. “How

³⁷ *RIA Oreanda* (November 10, 2009), “Statement of G8 Foreign Ministers on Afghanistan Presidential Election.”

³⁸ *Xinhua News Agency* (November 6, 2009), “Canada to host G8 foreign ministers meeting next March.”

³⁹ *Waterloo Region Record*, (December 4, 2008), “Geldof: economic crisis no excuse to cut foreign aid.”

can the G8 ignore it if all these voices are speaking together?” asks Reverend Karen Hamilton, general secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches. Top representatives from all the world’s major faiths, including South Africa’s Desmond Tutu and the Aga Khan, will participate. Hamilton says the Dalai Lama hopes to attend. The religious leaders summit will be held at the University of Winnipeg, where president Lloyd Axworthy, a former federal Liberal cabinet member, has donated the use of the campus. The first such meeting was held in 2005.⁴⁰ (March 19, 2009, *Toronto Star*)

Nongovernmental Organizations

Canada has backed a series of measures, including the Forum for the Future, which are aimed at helping businesses and non-governmental aid groups in Muslim countries. The Forum for the Future is an initiative of the G8 countries, about 20 countries in the Broader Middle East and North Africa Region (BMENA), the European Commission and the Arab League. “This forum upheld the principle that political and economic freedoms ultimately serve to strengthen regional stability and security,” said Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon. “Canada also shares the commitment of participants to the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East.” Cannon announced that Qatar has agreed to host the 2010 G8 BMENA Forum. “Qatar is a good choice as a host because of its recognized role in facilitating the African Union-United Nations mediation process on Darfur.” Canada has pledged \$50 million to support projects currently underway in the BMENA region aimed at developing business, governance and basic education.⁴¹ (November 3, 2009, *CanWest News Service*)

Oliver Buston, spokesperson for the U.S.-based activist group ONE, said Harper needs to take a more progressive role on aid to Africa and other humanitarian issues because otherwise he is creating a “G8 time bomb.” Many of the pledges of support for development by richer nations come due in 2010.⁴² (July 8, 2008, *Toronto Star*)

International aid groups warned that Canada will be under pressure as chair of the G8 summit in Huntsville, Ontario, in 2010, when many of the commitments for African aid and development are due — and international anti-poverty campaigners will descend upon Canada. John Kirton, Director of the G8 Research Group at the University of Toronto has said that many of the commitments of the group face 2010, and Canadian officials might well be nervous about the series of costs it would entail to live to them by the time they host the Huntsville summit.⁴³ (July 7, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

⁴⁰ *Toronto Star* (March 19, 2009), “Religious heads to hold own summit during G8; Politicians attending meeting in Muskoka will get push to aid the poor, environment.”

⁴¹ *CanWest News Service* (November 3, 2009), “Canada backs measures to bolster Muslim worlds businesses, NGOs.”

⁴² *Toronto Star* (July 9, 2008), “PM blocks progress at summit, critics say; Aid groups accuse Canada of obstructing action on climate change, global food crisis and Africa.”

⁴³ *Globe and Mail* (July 7, 2008), “Canada a laggard on African aid: groups.”

Canada's G8 Team

Stephen Harper, Prime Minister
Leonard Edwards, Sherpa
Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs
James Flaherty, Minister of Finance
Jim Prentice, Minister of the Environment
Gary Lunn, Minister of Natural Resources
Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence
Rob Nicholson, Minister of Justice and Attorney General
Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade
Gerry Ritz, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food
Tony Clement, Minister of Industry, Member of Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka
Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health
Rona Ambrose, Minister of Labour and Economic Development Agency

Participating Leaders

G8 Leaders

Canada

Stephen Harper was born in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on April 30, 1959. In 1985, he received his bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Calgary. In 1991, he returned to the University of Calgary and received his master's degree in economics. Harper was first elected to the House of Commons in 1993. On February 6, 2006, Harper became prime minister after his Conservative party won the January 2006 election. This will be Harper's fifth G8 summit and first as host. Leonard Edwards is his G8 sherpa.

France

Nicolas Sarkozy was born in Paris, France, on January 28, 1955. In 1978, he received his degree in law from the University of Paris. Sarkozy worked as a lawyer while he pursued politics. From 1983 to 2002, he was mayor of Neuilly-sur-Seine. He has been president of the Union pour un Mouvement Populaire (UMP), France's major right-wing party, since 2004. Sarkozy became president on May 16, 2007. This will be his fourth G8 summit. France is scheduled to host the G8 in 2011.

United States

Barack Obama became president-elect on November 4, 2008, and was inaugurated January 20, 2009, replacing George W. Bush. In 2005 Obama was elected to the Senate, having previously worked as a community organizer, a civil rights lawyer and a state legislator for Illinois. The first black president of the United States, he was born on

August 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii, to a Kenyan father and American mother. He received his bachelor's degree from Columbia University in 1983 and a law degree from Harvard University in 1991. He is married to Michelle Obama and they have two children. This will be Obama's second G8 summit. The U.S. usually follows France in the G8 hosting order (i.e., 2012).

United Kingdom

Gordon Brown was born in Govan, Glasgow, Scotland, on February 20, 1951. He studied history at the University of Edinburgh and completed his PhD in 1982. Before entering into politics he worked as a lecturer and journalist. Brown was first elected to parliament in 1983. He served as Chancellor of the Exchequer (finance minister) under Tony Blair from 1997 to 2007. He assumed the office of prime minister on June 27, 2007. However, an election must be held on or before June 3, 2010, meaning that there could be a different leader attending the 2010 summit. If he remains in power, this will be his third G8 summit as leader of the United Kingdom. He accompanied Blair to summits as minister of finance. The United Kingdom usually follows the U.S. in G8 hosting sequence (i.e., 2013).

Russia

Dmitry Medvedev was born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) of the former Soviet Union on September 14, 1965. He earned a degree in law in 1987 and a PhD in private law in 1990 from Leningrad State University. Before entering into politics, he worked as a lawyer. This will be his third G8 summit. Russia will likely follow the United Kingdom in the G8 hosting sequence (i.e., 2014).

Germany

Angela Merkel was born in Hamburg, Germany, on July 17, 1956. In 1978, she received her doctorate in physics from the University of Leipzig. Before entering into politics she worked as a physicist. Merkel was first elected to the Bundestag in 1990. She became chancellor on November 22, 2005 and was re-elected in September 2009. This will be her fifth G8 summit. Germany will likely follow Russia in the G8 hosting sequence (i.e., 2015).

Japan

Yukio Hatoyama was elected prime minister of Japan on August 30, 2009, replacing Taro Aso, who had held the position since September 24, 2008. Before entering into politics, Hatoyama was a professor. In 1998 he was instrumental in the merging of several parties to create the "new" Democratic Party of Japan and led the party from 1999 to 2002 began again assuming the leadership in May 2009. Hatoyama was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1986 and has been re-elected seven times since then. He was born in

Tokyo on February 11, 1947. Hatoyama studied engineering at Tokyo University and went on to complete his PhD at Stanford University. The Muskoka Summit will be his first G8 summit. Japan usually follows Germany in the G8 hosting sequence (i.e. 2016).

Italy

Silvio Berlusconi was born in Milan, Italy, on September 29, 1936. In 1961, he received his degree in law from the University of Milan. Before entering into politics he worked in business and was quite the entrepreneur—building construction businesses, establishing cable networks, and forming media groups. Berlusconi was first elected prime minister in 1994. He served a second term as prime minister from 2001 to 2006. On April 29, 2008, Berlusconi became prime minister for a third time. This will be Berlusconi's ninth G8 summit. Italy hosted the 2009 summit and usually follows Japan in the G8 hosting sequence (i.e., 2017).

Appendices

Appendix A: Commitments Due in 2010

1997-9. We intend to commit to meaningful, realistic and equitable targets that will result in reductions of greenhouse gas emissions by 2010.

1998-22. We support the new initiative to 'Roll Back Malaria' to relieve the suffering experienced by hundreds of millions of people, and significantly reduce the death rate from malaria by 2010.

2000-36. [We therefore commit ourselves to working in strengthened partnership with governments, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations, industry (notably pharmaceutical companies), academic institutions, NGOs and other relevant actors in civil society to deliver three critical UN targets:] reduce the number of HIV/AIDS-infected young people by 25% by 2010.

2000-37. [We therefore commit ourselves to working in strengthened partnership with governments, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations, industry (notably pharmaceutical companies), academic institutions, NGOs and other relevant actors in civil society to deliver three critical UN targets:] reduce TB deaths and prevalence of the disease by 50% by 2010.

2000-38. [We therefore commit ourselves to working in strengthened partnership with governments, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other international organizations, industry (notably pharmaceutical companies), academic institutions, NGOs and other relevant actors in civil society to deliver three critical UN targets:] reduce the burden of disease associated with malaria by 50% by 2010.

2002-31. [Providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations are able to engage more effectively to

prevent and resolve violent conflict on the continent, and undertake peace support operations in accordance with the United Nations Charter — including by:] Continuing to work with African partners to deliver a joint plan, by 2003, for the development of African capability to undertake peace support operations, including at the regional level;

2002-32: [Providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations are able to engage more effectively to prevent and resolve violent conflict on the continent, and undertake peace support operations in accordance with the United Nations Charter — including by:] Training African peace support forces including through the development of regional centres of excellence for military and civilian aspects of conflict prevention and peace support, such as the Kofi Annan International Peace Training Centre;

2002-33: [Providing technical and financial assistance so that, by 2010, African countries and regional and sub-regional organizations are able to engage more effectively to prevent and resolve violent conflict on the continent, and undertake peace support operations in accordance with the United Nations Charter — including by:] Better coordinating our respective peacekeeping training initiatives.

2004-x2: [We undertake specific activities and coordinate our efforts closely to ensure the maximum benefit to our partners and ourselves. Therefore, we commit, consistent with our national laws, to:] Train and, where appropriate, equip a total of approximately 75,000 troops worldwide by 2010, in line with commitments undertaken at Kananaskis and Evian. This effort will have a sustained focus on Africa and other nations that can contribute to peace support operations both in Africa and elsewhere.

2004-x6: [We undertake specific activities and coordinate our efforts closely to ensure the maximum benefit to our partners and ourselves. Therefore, we commit, consistent with our national laws, to:] Build peace support operations capabilities in other regions by 2010.

2005-1: We back the African Union and the other African institutions which must continue to develop their capacity for promoting lasting peace and stability on the continent. In this regard, we are progressing with our Sea Island commitment to train and, where appropriate equip, some 75,000 troops by 2010 to take part in peace support operations worldwide, with a sustained focus on Africa.

2005:8 — We have agreed to double aid for Africa by 2010. Aid for all developing countries will increase, according to the OECD, by around \$50bn per year by 2010, of which at least \$25bn extra per year for Africa.

2005:40 — With the aim of an AIDS-free generation in Africa, significantly reducing HIV infections and working with WHO, UNAIDS and other international bodies to develop and implement a package for HIV prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of as close as possible to universal access to treatment for all those who need it by 2010.

2006 — 4: fulfillment of prior G8 commitments on the major infectious diseases, in particular by mobilizing support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and

Malaria; continuing to pursue as close as possible to universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment for all who need it by 2010; supporting the Global Plan to Stop TB; providing resources in cooperation with African countries to scale up action against malaria; continuing to expand the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise; and continuing our support for the Global Polio Eradication Initiative so that the planet can be declared polio-free within the next few years;

2006 — 37: reaffirm our commitment to work with African countries to scale up malaria control interventions, reduce the burden of the disease, and eventually defeat malaria on the continent and meet the Abuja target of halving the burden of malaria by 2010.

2006 — 312: We reaffirmed our commitments to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria and agreed to work further with other donors to mobilize resources for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and to continuing to pursue as closely as possible to universal access to HIV/AIDS treatment for those who need it by 2010.

2007-56: We acknowledge the “Potsdam Initiative — Biological Diversity 2010” presented at the G8 Environmental Ministerial meeting in March 2007 and will increase our efforts for the protection and sustainable use of biological diversity to achieve our agreed goal of significantly reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2010.

2007-144: They also include increasing, compared to 2004, with other donors, ODA to Africa by US\$25 billion a year by 2010.

2007-225: The G8 countries will scale up their efforts to contributing towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programs, treatment and care and support by 2010 for all, and to developing and strengthening health systems so that health care, especially primary health care, can be provided on a sustainable and equitable basis in order to reduce illness and mortality, with particular attention paid to the needs of those most vulnerable to infection, including adolescent girls, women and children.

2007-227: [We recognize that the level of demand to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) will increase substantially in the future as has been projected by the GFATM Board. In this regard, noting the conclusions of the April meeting of the GFATM Board, which estimated an additional demand approximately of US\$6 billion by 2010 which might possibly reach US\$8 billion,] G8 members pledge to work with other donors to replenish the GFATM and to provide long-term predictable funding based on ambitious, but realistic demand-driven targets.

2007-230: In the overall context of scaling up towards the goal of universal access and strengthening of health systems we will contribute substantially with other donors to work towards the goal of providing universal coverage of PMTCT programs by 2010.

2007-231: [The cost to reach this target, as estimated by UNICEF, is US\$1,5 billion.] The G8 together with other donors will work towards meeting the needed resources for pediatric treatments in the context of universal access, at a cost of US\$1.8 billion till 2010, estimated by UNICEF.

2007-246: The G8 reaffirm their commitment to scaling up towards “universal access” to comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment and care by 2010 and recognize the significant progress made by countries on target setting and planning, notably concerning enhanced availability of affordable antiretroviral treatment.

2008-48: We urge all countries that have not yet fully implemented the OECD standards of transparency and effective exchange of information in tax matters to do so without further delay, and encourage the OECD to strengthen its work on tax evasion and report back in 2010.

2008-72: We strongly support the launching of 20 large-scale CCS demonstration projects globally by 2010, taking into account various national circumstances, with a view to beginning broad deployment of CCS by 2020.

2008-85: We note the significant progress made by the multilateral development banks on the Clean Energy Investment Framework (CEIF) agreed at Gleneagles and welcome their joint level of ambition to mobilize public and private investments of over US\$100 billion up to 2010 from within existing resources. We call upon these Banks to build on the CEIF to develop comprehensive strategies to guide the integration of climate change into their development work and to set specific targets for low carbon investments like renewable energy.

2008-89: We endorse the Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity and reiterate our commitment to increase our efforts to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss significantly in order to achieve the globally agreed 2010 Biodiversity Target, including by reducing threats from the illicit trade in wildlife.

2008-97: The OECD/DAC estimated the global increase of official development assistance (ODA) by 2010 at around US\$50 billion a year. We are firmly committed to working to fulfill our commitments on ODA made at Gleneagles, and reaffirmed at Heiligendamm, including increasing, compared to 2004, with other donors, ODA to Africa by US\$25 billion a year by 2010.

2008-98: We commend the successful replenishments of the resources of the International Development Association, the African Development Fund and the Asian Development Fund in which G8 countries provided nearly 75% of donor’s contributions and we acknowledge that ODA from G8 and other donors to Africa should be reassessed and may need to be increased for the period after 2010, beyond our current commitments.

2008-111: G8 members are determined to honor in full their specific commitments to fight infectious diseases, namely malaria, tuberculosis, polio and working towards the goal of universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care by 2010.

2008-125: As part of fulfilling our past commitments on malaria, we will continue to expand access to long-lasting insecticide treated nets, with a view to providing 100 million nets through bilateral and multilateral assistance, in partnership with other stakeholders by the end of 2010.

2008-171: We will work collectively to achieve a successful outcome of the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

2008-203: [We will, in particular] build capacity for peace support operations including providing quality training to and equipping troops by 2010, with focus on Africa, as well as enhance logistics and transportation support for deployment;

2009-1: We are committed to implementing our decisions, and to adopting a full and comprehensive accountability mechanism by 2010 to monitor progress and strengthen the effectiveness of our actions.

2009-65: We ask our experts to assess progress in meeting these commitments, and report back by our meeting in Canada in 2010.

2009-81: will reinforce our efforts to meet the 2010 Biodiversity Target to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level;

2009-83: work towards the completion of the negotiation on the international regime on access to and benefit sharing of genetic resources by 2010;

2009-98: [Reaffirming the commitment made in Toyako for the launch of 20 large-scale Carbon Capture and Storage demonstration projects globally by 2010, we will:] accelerate the design of policies, regulatory frameworks and incentive schemes focused on the development and deployment of CCS technology;

2009-99: [Reaffirming the commitment made in Toyako for the launch of 20 large-scale Carbon Capture and Storage demonstration projects globally by 2010, we will:] encourage greater involvement of developing countries by promoting collaboration and knowledge diffusion, also through IEA regional roundtables;

2009-100: [Reaffirming the commitment made in Toyako for the launch of 20 large-scale Carbon Capture and Storage demonstration projects globally by 2010, we will:] work to identify sources of financing for CCS demonstration projects;

2009-101: [Reaffirming the commitment made in Toyako for the launch of 20 large-scale Carbon Capture and Storage demonstration projects globally by 2010, we will:] invite the IEA, together with the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF), to report on and further develop technology roadmaps and to work with the private sector to accelerate the construction and operation of demonstration projects. To this end, we welcome the work on criteria by the IEA to facilitate tracking of global progress on these projects in view of an update to be presented at our Summit in 2010;

2009-102: [Reaffirming the commitment made in Toyako for the launch of 20 large-scale Carbon Capture and Storage demonstration projects globally by 2010, we will:] identify investment needs and overcome obstacles, including the potential development of innovative partnerships with multilateral financial institutions.

2009-103: Noting that energy poverty remains widespread in many areas, most notably in

Africa and Asia, we support the launch, together with interested countries, of the Expert-Level Working Group on Energy Poverty following the proposal made at the G8 Energy Ministers Meeting in Rome, and encourage it to submit a report before the 2010 Muskoka Summit.

2009-112: Furthermore, we have tasked a senior level working group to devise, in cooperation with relevant international organizations, a broader, comprehensive and consistent methodology for reporting with a focus on our activities in development and development-related areas and with attention to results. A report will be delivered in 2010 at the Muskoka Summit in Canada.

2009-113: We also ask for an international assessment, in 2010, on what is needed in order to achieve the MDGs.

2009-115: In particular, despite the severe impact of the crisis on our economies, we reiterate the importance of fulfilling our commitments to increase aid made at Gleneagles, and reaffirmed at Heiligendamm and Toyako. For Africa, this will include increasing, together with other donors ODA by US\$25 billion a year by 2010, compared to 2004.

2009-116: The OECD-DAC estimated that the combined commitments of G8 and other donors would increase overall ODA by around \$50 billion a year by 2010 compared to 2004. We will continue to provide debt relief according to the Enhanced HIPC initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and the Paris Club's Evian Approach.

2009-128: We ask the OECD to elaborate further on this issue and report to our next Summit in 2010.

2009-152: We will implement further efforts towards universal access to HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010, with particular focus on prevention and integration of services for HIV/TB.

2009-160: [Strengthening capacities and coordination mechanisms for peace and security in Africa. We will reinforce G8 programs, taking action to:] We task our experts to elaborate further specific proposals by the next Summit.

2009-168: We ask the African Development Bank, in cooperation with the OECD, to systematically monitor the interaction between aid flows, growth and domestic tax capacity development in Africa and to report back to our next Summit.

2009-196: We will work together so that the 2010 NPT Review Conference can successfully strengthen the Treaty's regime and set realistic and achievable goals in all the Treaty's three pillars.

2009-199: While noting that the NSG has not yet reached consensus on this issue, we agree that the NSG discussions have yielded useful and constructive proposals contained in the NSG's "clean text" developed at the 20 November 2008 Consultative Group meeting. Pending completion of work in the NSG, we agree to implement this text on a

national basis in the next year.

2009-204: We instruct the HAP Steering Committee to organize the necessary actions and to prepare a substantive report for the Muskoka Summit in 2010, where we will review progress and provide guidance for the next steps of our common work.

Appendix B: Facts About Deerhurst

- Deerhurst is 230 kilometres (about three hours' drive) north of Toronto.
- Room rates at Deerhurst for two people start at approximately \$169 per nights. Three bedroom suites start at \$489 per night.
- For more information on the Deerhurst resort go to <www.deerhurstresort.com> or call 1-800-461-4393).
- For more information about Huntsville and Muskoka go to <www.huntsvillemuskoka.com>