

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

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AU	African Union
CCS	carbon capture and storage
CEIF	Clean Energy Investment Framework
CSLF	Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum
DAC	Development Assistance Committee (of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development)
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
HAP	Heiligendamm L’Aquila Process
HIPC	heavily indebted poor country
IEA	International Energy Agency
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NGO	nongovernmental organization
NPT	Non-proliferation Treaty
NSG	Nuclear Suppliers Group
ODA	official development assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPP	Ontario Provincial Police
PMTCT	preventing mother-to-child transmission
RCMP	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
TB	tuberculosis
WHO	World Health Organization

Preface

This report on “Canada’s 2010 G8: Plans for the Summit” is compiled by the G8 Research Group largely from public sources as an aid to researchers and other stakeholders interested in the 2010 G8 Summit. It will be updated periodically as plans for the 2010 Summit evolve. This report adds material on the physical summit, Canada’s internal preparations and G8 ministerial meetings.

Introduction: Canada’s 2010 G8

Canada will host the G8’s 2010 Summit from June 25 to 26, 2010. Huntsville, Ontario, in Muskoka, approximately 165 kilometres north of Canada’s largest city, Toronto, Ontario, will serve as the summit site. The Deerhurst Resort will be where the leaders hold their meetings. Canada will also co-host the G20 summit with Korea in June in Toronto on June 26-27, 2010. In announcing the G8 site on June 19, 2008, prime minister Stephen Harper said the summit would focus on open markets and free trade; global warming; and freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law. In July 2009, Harper added development as a fourth theme. From previous summits it appears that the Canadian 2010

summit will cover issues such as the world economy, biodiversity, nonproliferation and Africa — including development, education, peace support and health. However, a number of other issues such as G8 expansion, energy and food security could all appear 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 special address to participants at the 40th World Economic Forum meeting, Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper outlined his priorities for the June G8 and G20 summits. He said that Canada will urge the G20 to adopt robust yet measured financial sector regulations and consider appropriate exit strategies for unwinding the enormous economic stimulus investments that each country has made since the crisis. At the G8 summit, Canada will propose a major initiative to improve children's and maternal health in the poorest regions of the world. At the G20 summit, Canada will urge countries to adopt national financial regulations strong enough to avoid a repetition of the global crisis. These regulations should be bolstered by an international peer review mechanism. "If inadequate regulation is not addressed," said Harper, "I believe the consequences could be worse than before the crisis." He warned that "financial regulation must have the right purposes and must not be excessive." Noting that Canada's banking and finance sector has weathered the crisis without a major failure or bailout, Harper said that the key is "to encourage a culture of prudent behaviour" but not micro-manage the industry. Though the G20 will be calling for robust regulations, "Canada will not go down the path of excessive arbitrary or punitive regulation of its financial sector." Harper said that Canada would also press for the G20 to discuss exit strategies. "While it is absolutely too soon to abandon stimulus programmes, it is not too soon to think about a strategy to exit them." At the G8, Canada will champion an initiative to mobilize member governments, NGOs and the private sector to reduce child mortality rates, raise healthcare standards and improve the well-being of women and children in the world's most vulnerable countries. "We must find that unity of purpose," he said.¹ (January 28, 2010, *States News Service*)

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

¹ *States News Service* (January 28, 2010), "G8 Chair Harper to Press for Financial Regulation and Improve Health of Poorest Women and Children."

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.”² (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.³ (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.⁴ (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, 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

² 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.

³ *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.

⁴ *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.

financial institutions were trying to follow those principles.⁵ (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 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

⁵ *Reuters News* (January 11, 2010), “Canada expects to discuss currencies at G7, G20.”

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)

Iran

Iranian foreign ministry representative Ramin Mehmanparast said that “certain countries’ resort [recourse]” methods, including the use of sanctions, was improper. “Nuclear programmes of the Islamic Republic of Iran are fully peaceful and taking up the choice of sanctions is a threat whose inefficiency [ineffectiveness] has been proved over the past 30 years,” he said in reaction to Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper’s anti-Iran claims at the meeting of the G8 foreign ministers on March 29. “Our recommendation to various

countries has always been their abandoning such improper methods as sanctions and pressure and instead distinguishing the recognized rights of countries, especially the rights falling within framework of the NPT, thus honouring rights of other independent states and encouraging use of peaceful nuclear energy,” he added.⁶ (April 1, 2010, *BBC Monitoring Middle East*)

Canada, as chair of the G8 summit, called on China to put more pressure on Iran to curb its nuclear ambitions. China has been facing mounting demands from western countries to approve a proposed United Nations Security Council resolution imposing new sanctions on Tehran, which it says has broken nonproliferation safeguards. “There comes a point beyond which there needs to be action, there needs to be engagement,” said Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon. “There doesn’t seem to be, on behalf of the Iranians, a level of co-operation that would [lead us] to say the diplomatic venue is the correct one to follow. So therefore I would seriously believe that China can play a leadership role here.” So far China has resisted pressure to agree to tougher sanctions on Iran, which is a big supplier of oil to China. Instead, it has said it wants Iran to agree to a plan that would swap low-enriched uranium for higher-grade nuclear fuel for a Tehran reactor producing medical isotopes. “China can indeed show a lot of determination here and a lot of leadership,” Cannon said. Iran will be high on the agenda when Cannon chairs the G8 foreign ministers at the end of March. “We are very worried that Iran poses risks to emboldening wannabe nations,” said Cannon. “Obviously there are parties in this discussion that feel (this) is dragging on painfully slowly and so action needs to be taken.”⁷ (March 17, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper is planning to use the G8 to press tougher action to rein in Iran’s nuclear weapons program, as allies signal frustration over inaction at the UN. Iran’s announcement that it is enriching uranium to a higher degree, considered another step to nuclear weapons, sparked U.S. president Barack Obama to announce new sanctions that freeze assets of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards and companies they control. China favours more diplomatic efforts over new sanctions. “Canada will continue to work with our allies to find strong and viable solutions, including sanctions, to hold Iran to account,” Harper said. “Canada will use its G8 presidency to continue to focus international attention and action on the Iranian regime.” Several countries have already announced their own unilateral steps to add sanctions. Canada has not ruled out a similar move, but wants to use the G8 as a forum to coordinate international efforts in the absence of new UN measures. “The sting of a co-ordinated approach is always felt more strongly,” said a Canadian official. The G8 already leads the movement for tougher action on Iran, but having Russia committed to a common G8 approach to tougher sanctions would increase pressure. “In this new situation, of course, the question of sanctions, of drafting a resolution for new sanctions has become more realistic,” said Russia’s deputy foreign minister Sergie Ryabkov. “The situation has really become more difficult and very serious.”⁸ (February 11, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

⁶ *BBC Monitoring Middle East* (April 1, 2010), “Iran FM spokesman hits out at Canadian PM over sanction remarks.”

⁷ *Reuters News* (March 17, 2010), “G8 chair Canada wants China to pressure Iran.”

⁸ *Globe and Mail* (February 11, 2010), “Harper will use G8 pulpit to press Iran over nukes.”

Nonproliferation

Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper announced five objectives for Nuclear Security Summit taking place in the United States on April 12-13. These objectives were to underscore the seriousness of the nuclear terrorist threat, to encourage states to strengthen their national nuclear security measures to enhance physical protection measures applied to nuclear material and facilities, to increase international cooperation on nuclear security, to endorse and contribute to U.S. president Barack Obama's four-year effort to secure all vulnerable nuclear material worldwide, and to ensure the summit supports broader non-proliferation and disarmament efforts. "The Nuclear Security Summit will provide Canada with an opportunity to highlight Canadian leadership on nuclear security and its cooperation with the United States and other partners to ensure that all nuclear materials are secure so that they do not fall in the hands of terrorists," said Harper. "Through our G8 Presidency in 2010, Canada is in a position to play a leading role in implementing the delivery of the key outcomes of the Nuclear Security Summit." Representatives from 47 countries, including all G8 and G20 members, were invited to attend the summit.⁹ (April 9, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper planned to invite countries at the Washington Nuclear Summit to join the G8 Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction to clean up nuclear sites around the world and prevent nuclear material from falling into terrorist hands. A Canadian official said that the program, in which 23 countries now participate, is a "super tool" to help implement the key goals of the summit. The program was launched by the G8 at the last Canadian-hosted summit in 2002. "All the countries around the table are of the view that securing nuclear material in Russia and the countries of the former Soviet Union is very, very, very, very relevant to global stability, not only to Russian-U.S. strategic stability but to the global stability," the official said. Harper was supposed to have a chance to stress the importance and usefulness of the program on the second day of the nuclear summit (April 13). "We will invite countries to be in touch with Canada and enter into discussions as to the kind of assistance, financial and otherwise that we can provide," the official said. White House officials had cited the Global Partnership as one of the instruments that summiteers could agree to strengthen.¹⁰ (April 9, 2010, *Canwest News Service*)

Stopping the spread of nuclear weapons and corralling components for a dirty bomb terror attack could become a top agenda item for the G8 Muskoka 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

⁹ *Xinhua News Agency* (April 9, 2010), "Canada sets Objectives for Nuclear Security Summit."

¹⁰ *Canwest News Service* (April 9, 2010), "Harper to talk nukes at G8 summit."

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.”¹¹ (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)

Africa

Canada will not commit to any increases in African aid until it is satisfied that the \$2 billion it has already delivered has not been wasted. Foreign affairs minister Lawrence Cannon reported that Canada met its 2004 G8 promise to double aid to Africa by 2009, but that the government “wants to make sure that the commitments that have already been taken previously are all met,” he said. “There’s an accountability factor.” He added that “all members of the G8” will be able to provide a “balance sheet.” The Harper government plans to showcase Africa at its June summit. The G8 will likely invite at least five African countries for discussions. Cannon said Canada is committed to helping Africa improve the strength of its government institutions and to meet its daunting security challenges, including the war in Darfur. The continent is “an extremely important point in terms of what our foreign policy is.” Cannon attended an African Union meeting “to make sure that the themes that the prime minister had indeed put forward are themes that resonate well with the Africans” at this year’s G8. He said Canada fully supports the AU in its efforts to raise the standards of democratic governments throughout the continent. “If you look at the work the African Union has done over the last few years since its inception, I think there has been marked progress,

¹¹ *Canadian Press* (January 4, 2010), “Canada may use G8 summit to battle spread of nuclear weapons, dirty bomb.”

notable progress on the democratic front. That is something Canada needs to support.” At the September G20 Pittsburgh Summit, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced that Canada give would the African Development Bank additional lending room of \$2.8 billion.¹² (February 16, 2010, *Canadian Press*)

Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon attended the 14th African Union Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. “I look forward to my first visit to the African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa and to participating in my first African Union Summit,” he said before heading to the meeting. “I hope that my presence at this important conference will send a clear signal to the organization and its members that Canada is committed to Africa, specifically in the areas of peace and security, conflict resolution, good governance and economic integration.” Cannon planned to hold high-level meetings on the sidelines of the summit to discuss issues of common interest and concern in Africa and around the world, including Canada’s plans as 2010 president of the G8 and host of the Toronto G20. “The African Union continues to play a crucial leadership role across the African continent,” said Cannon. “I welcome this opportunity to engage with such a valuable international partner for Canada.”¹³ (January 29, 2010, *Xinhua News Agency*)

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

Countries will need to deliver an additional \$35 billion in aid annually starting in 2010 to reach the MDGs by 2015, according to United Nations secretary-general Ban Ki-moon.

¹² *Canadian Press* (February 16, 2010), “Cannon seeks accountability on African aid at G8, touts promises delivered.”

¹³ *Xinhua News Agency* (January 29, 2010), “Canadian FM to attend African Union Summit.”

He is “cautiously optimistic” the goals can be achieved if developed countries keep the financial commitments they have already made and leaders of developing countries demonstrate the “political will” to reach the targets. He said developing countries need to do their utmost to improve governance, empower women and promote health, education and jobs while developed countries need to meet the financial promises they made at the G8 Gleneagles Summit in 2005.¹⁴ (March 16, 2010, *Associated Press Newswires*)

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

¹⁴ *Associated Press Newswires* (March 16, 2010), “UN urges rich to keep promises to help poor.”

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

Canada will pursue its “signature initiative” on maternal and children’s health, despite disagreements with the U.S. and UK over funding for abortion in the developing world, Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon said. While the Canadian government wants no part of funding abortions, U.S. secretary of state Hillary Clinton and UK secretary of state for foreign affairs, David Miliband, said that any international effort to boost maternal health must include family planning, including access to safe abortions. “I think Mrs. Clinton expressed not her government’s position,” Cannon said. “She expressed her personal point of view. This was her personal opinion and I think that as we move forward with this initiative — which is extremely important in terms of saving and helping young children as well as mothers — that’s going to be discussed.” The minister added, however, that the government has “closed the door” on the issue of abortion. The Canadian government has argued that it does not want a valuable initiative to improve the lives of women and children in the developing world to be scuttled by a contentious debate over abortion. Cannon also said that many African countries support the Canadian plan because it focuses on urgent health needs in the developing world. Clinton and Miliband, however were adamant that any program to improve women’s health include reproductive health, including access to contraception and abortion.¹⁵ (April 5, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper opened the door to allowing contraception to be part of his G8 initiative on maternal health after other officials had stated that it would not be up for discussion. However, Harper confirmed that he does not want “a debate here or elsewhere on abortion.” He said, “The government’s position is clear ... I think the minister [of foreign affairs] responded — the government is seeking to get the G8 countries to act to save lives, mothers and children, throughout the world ... We are not closing doors against any options including contraception. But we do not want a debate here or elsewhere on abortion.” Canadian development minister Bev Oda said that the government wanted to focus on “providing clean water, vaccinations, better nutrition” and training healthcare workers. A spokesperson for the Canadian prime minister said the government’s position has not changed. “We’ve always said we’d look at all options ... We’ve also always said we’re not opening the door to the abortion debate.”¹⁶ (March 18, 2010, *The Globe and Mail*)

In mid March Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon said that family planning would not be included in Canada’s “signature” initiative to improve children and maternal health at the June G8 summit. “It does not deal in any way, shape or form with family planning. Indeed, the purpose of this is to be able to save lives,” Cannon said. Although the Canadian government had previously suggested that the maternal health initiative would leave out family planning, Cannon’s statement distressed those who had

¹⁵ *The Globe and Mail* (April 5, 2010), “Abortion rift with G8 partners won’t stop maternal health policy, minister says.”

¹⁶ *Globe and Mail* (March 18, 2010), “Canada ‘not closing doors’ on contraception, PM declares; After two ministers ruled out birth control, Stephen Harper puts option back on table for G8 maternal health plans.”

hoped for some flexibility. Harper's announcement to champion a G8 initiative to improve maternal and infant health in developing countries was intended to have broad backing among Canadians, including in the Conservatives' own political base.¹⁷ (March 17, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper plans to highlight mothers and infants' health in the developing world as a means of transforming the role of the G8. Insisting the group focus on development and international security issues now that the G20 has usurped its role as an economic forum, Harper hopes maternal and child health will become Canada's signature focus at the G8 summit in June. "Members of the G8 can make a tangible difference in maternal and child health and Canada will be making this the top priority in June," Harper said. "Far too many lives and unexplored futures have already been lost for want of relatively simple health care solutions." Maternal and child health are topics new to the prime minister's agenda, but provide a link to the G8's past development promises.¹⁸ (January 27, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

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;

¹⁷ *Globe and Mail* (March 17, 2010), "Birth control won't be in G8 plan to protect mothers, Tories say; 'Signature' initiative meant to save lives, Cannon says, ruling out contraception."

¹⁸ *Globe and Mail* (January 27, 2010), "With plight of mothers, Harper seeks new G8 course; PM to outline new agenda for struggling summit in Davos, aiming to restore its relevance with focus on health and security."

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)

Crime

Interpol has launched a “most wanted” site for suspected child sex offenders across the G8. The “G8 Wanted Child Sex Offender” site, accessible via Interpol’s homepage [www.interpol.int], draws together information from G8 members. It includes photographs of people wanted on charges of abuse and enables the public to access to information about how to report missing sex offenders who may have crossed borders. “It aims to identify and apprehend wanted child sex offenders from across G8 countries by bringing together initiatives relating to child sex offenders from all G8 countries where they exist,” a statement on the site says.¹⁹ (March 22, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

Terrorism

A counterterrorist action plan will be drafted and made public at the beginning of the G8 summit in June. Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov said that the G8 foreign ministers did not limit their “tough reaction” to the March 29 suicide bombing of Moscow subway trains that left 39 people dead and more than 70 others injured to the statement they issued at their ministerial meeting in Gatineau, Canada. “We discussed in detail the measures that might be taken to raise the efficiency of the anti-terrorist front,” he said. Lavrov indicated that an instruction has been issued to the appropriate G8 agencies to draw up a precisely targeted plan to raise the practical efficaciousness of the work done by specialized organizations in the G8 and by partner countries “cooperating with us on counter-terrorist measures under the auspices of UN conventions.” Lavrov said the plan

¹⁹ *Agence France Presse* (March 22, 2010), “Interpol launches G8 ‘most wanted’ child sex offender site.”

will be presented to the G8 leaders. “I hope they will endorse it so that we could promote it further via the UN channels and through cooperation with other organizations.”²⁰ (April 1, 2010, *ITAR-TASS World Service*)

The Financial Action Task Force has accused Nepal of posing a risk to the international financial system by failing to correct its financial regime to curb money laundering and terrorism financing. Nepal is one of 20 countries identified by FATF as seriously deficient in this field. Financial experts say the FATF review will have serious implications on Nepal’s investment climate and overall economy. “At a time when the unfavourable political situation has given rise to informal capital flight, the task force’s warning could serve as another blow to the economy,” said Rewat B. Karki, senior economist and former director of Nepal’s central bank. The report, which the FATF claims is an “important new step to protect the international financial system from abuse,” was released in Abu Dhabi on 19 February. The FATF will closely monitor the implementation of action plans within the timeframes proposed in the report. Nepal must criminalize money laundering and terrorism financing, establish and implement adequate procedures to identify and freeze terrorist assets, implement procedures to confiscate funds related to money laundering, and enact and implement mutual legal assistance legislation. The FATF has also blacklisted Iran, Angola, North Korea, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Turkmenistan and São Tomé and Príncipe.²¹ (March 1, 2010, *Kathmandu Post*)

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.”²² (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

²⁰ *ITAR-TASS World Service* (April 1, 2010), “Counter-terrorist plan to be made public before G8’s summit in Canada.”

²¹ *Kathmandu Post* (March 1, 2010), “G20 task force tells Nepal to curb money laundering.”

²² *Globe and Mail* (January 19, 2010), “Cannon seeks to get Yemen on G8 agenda.”

that nonproliferation, global threats and regional stability top the G8's political agenda for 2010.²³ (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 maintaining the G8 framework. He said the G8 will continue to be a useful grouping.²⁴ (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.²⁵ (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

Canadian prime minister Stephen Harper said multinational organizations such as the G8 and the G20 should focus less on "lofty promises" and more on "real results." Harper said that when Canada hosts the G8 and G20 summits this summer, "the discussion should be less about new agreements than accountability for existing ones." He said G20 countries must demonstrate that they have met commitments they made at earlier summits in Pittsburgh and Washington, particularly in regards to financial system reform at the national level, and stimulus spending.²⁶ (January 29, 2010, *Ottawa Citizen*)

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)

Preparations

- January 13-14, 2010: G20 Sherpas Meeting (Mexico)
- January 13-14, 2010: G7 Finance Deputies Meeting (France)
- January 20-21, 2010: G7 DD's Meeting (Ottawa, Canada)

²³ *Russia & CIS General Newsire* (December 29, 2009), "Russia wants G8 to be chiefly political body."

²⁴ *Kyodo News* (November 14, 2009), "Canada wants firm tie-up with Japan next year as chairs of G8, APEC."

²⁵ *Kyodo News* (December 8, 2008), "Canadian envoy does not foresee G20 replacing G8 as major forum."

²⁶ *Ottawa Citizen* (January 29, 2010), "PM calls for 'real results' from world leaders; Canadian aid efforts win praise at prestigious forum."

- February 4-5, 2010: G8 Sherpas Meeting (Yellowknife, Canada)
- February 4-5, 2010: G7 Finance Deputies Meeting (Iqaluit, Canada)
- February 5-6, 2010: G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (Iqaluit, Canada)
- February 22-24, 2010: G20 Tourism Ministers (Johannesburg, South Africa)
- February 27-28, 2010: G20 Finance Deputies Meeting (Incheon, Korea)
- March 4-5, 2010: G8 Sherpas Meeting (Vancouver, Canada)
- March 18-19, 2010: G20 Sherpas Meeting (Ottawa, Canada)
- April 20-21, 2010: G20 Labour Ministers Meeting (Washington, DC)
- April 22-23, 2010: G8 Sherpas Meeting (Halifax, Canada)
- April 22-23, 2010: G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (Washington, DC)
- April 24-26, 2010: G8 Development Ministers Meeting (Halifax, Canada)
- May 24-25, 2010: G20 Sherpas Meeting (Calgary, Canada)
- May 30, 2010: G8 Sherpas Meeting (Ontario, Canada)
- June 3-4, 2010: G20 Finance Deputies Meeting (South Korea)
- June 3-5, 2010: G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting (Busan, South Korea)
- June 22-24, 2010: G8/G20 Sherpas Meeting (Canada)
- June 25-26, 2010: G8 Leaders Summit (Muskoka, Ontario)
- June 26-27, 2010: G20 Leaders Summit (Toronto, Ontario)

G8 deputy foreign ministers met in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, on March 1-2. The meeting examined the status of preparations for the G8 foreign ministers meeting in Gatineau on March 29-30 and the leaders' summit taking place in Muskoka on June 25-26. Discussions focused mainly on the nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction, a problem especially relevant in the light of the Non-proliferation Treaty Review Conference to be held in May and the situation surrounding the nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea. Among regional issues the greatest attention was paid to the state of affairs in Afghanistan. On the Canadian presidency's initiative, questions of the coordination of G8 efforts to help countries with conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction were also discussed.²⁷ (March 4, 2010, *RIA Oreanda-News*)

Process: The Physical Summit

The Canadian government is poised to spend CA\$166,500 for this year's G8 and G20 summits to hire Bruce Forster, a Vancouver interior designer who has decorated several of Canada's previous summits. The government wants him to "develop a fine-art strategy" for the two summits. Forster is supposed to arrange for Canadian art, furnishings and decorations at the summit dinners and events. He will manage a "floral team," arrange for art work to be shipped back and forth under tight security, and put together a commemorative booklet for the collection. He will also be responsible for hiring a fine-arts consultant. "The organization of these summits offers an opportunity for Canada to profile its arts and culture to world leaders, heads of state and major

²⁷ *RIA Oreanda News* (March 4, 2010), "G8 Political Directors' Meeting."

international organizations,” the Foreign Affairs notice said. “This work must compliment the existing decor of the official sites of the summits while balancing Canadian and local artistry.” The contract was expected to be confirmed by the end of March, unless Forster’s abilities are challenged. “Forster is aware of the high quality and timely specifications of such events and knows all its intricacies,” the notice said.²⁸ (March 17, 2010, *Canadian Press*)

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 25-26.²⁹ (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.³⁰ (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 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.³¹ (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

²⁸ *Canadian Press* (March 17, 2010), “Harper government to spend \$167K on summit decorator.”

²⁹ *Office of the Prime Minister* (December 7, 2009), “PM announces G20 leaders will meet in Toronto in 2010.” Available from: <<http://www.pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&id=3026>>

³⁰ *The Globe and Mail* (November 19, 2009), “Seven months to go, G20 site still up in the air.”

³¹ *Canadian Press* (October 27, 2009), “G8 money lands far from Huntsville, Ont., meeting site.”

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.³² (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 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.³³ (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.³⁴ (November 1, 2008, *Industry Canada*)

³² *Marketwire* (June 15, 2009), “Industry Canada: Bracebridge Gets Ready for 2010 G8 Summit.”

³³ *Marketwire* (February 6, 2009), “Canada Makes Important Investments in Huntsville in Preparation for the 2010 G8 Summit.”

³⁴ *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.

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.³⁵ (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 at this summit as the next leader of the Liberal Party.”³⁶ (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

³⁵ *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.”

³⁶ *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>

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.”³⁷ (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, 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.³⁸ (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.³⁹ (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

³⁷ *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.”

³⁸ *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.”

³⁹ *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.”

beauty of the region and by the warm hospitality of Muskokans.”⁴⁰ (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).⁴¹ (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 Airport may also preclude restricting airspace around Toronto, 225 kilometers away.⁴² (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;

⁴⁰ *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.

⁴¹ *Globe and Mail* (August 25, 2008), “Curios tales emerge about site of lakeside 2010 G8 summit.”

⁴² *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.”

\$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 11.⁴³ (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.⁴⁴ (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, meaning there would be no 'additional' benefit to having the summit.⁴⁵ (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

⁴³ *Globe and Mail* (January 19, 2010), "\$50-million in infrastructure for a one-day summit."

⁴⁴ *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.

⁴⁵ *Globe and Mail* (August 25, 2008), "Curios tales emerge about site of lakeside 2010 G8 summit."

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.⁴⁶ (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.⁴⁷ (June 19, 2008, *Prime Minister of Canada*)

Costs

The Canadian government is expected to rack up CA\$179.4 million in planning and preparing security for the G8 and G20 summits. Toronto city councillors were told that the summits represent the “largest security event in Canadian history,” and supplementary funding estimates tabled in Parliament appear to support that statement. The RCMP, which is coordinating the security effort, will receive CA\$131.7 million, the biggest allocation. The Public Safety department will receive CA\$32.1 million, the Department of National Defence CA\$11.7 million and Industry Canada CA\$2.7 million. The budget breakdown confirms that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service will be involved and will receive only CA\$597,000. The money will be used to “design, plan and co-ordinate security operations for the summits; provide the RCMP and its security partners with temporary accommodation facilities for the G8 summit; procure information technology and portable communication assets; work with federal, provincial and municipal security partners responsible for providing summit security; and ensure the safe keeping of all international protected persons attending the summits.”⁴⁸ (March 3, 2010, *Canwest News Service*)

The 2002 Kananaskis Summit came with a price. Security reportedly cost taxpayers in excess of \$200 million.⁴⁹ (July 12, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

⁴⁶ *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.”

⁴⁷ *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.

⁴⁸ *Canwest News Service* (March 3, 2010), “Cost for securing G8, G20 summits up extra \$179 million.”

⁴⁹ *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.”

Ministerial Meetings

G7 Finance Ministers

At their meeting on February 5-6, 2010, in Iqaluit, G7 finance ministers and central bankers sought to reassure markets that the debt contagion spreading across southern Europe was under control, expressing confidence that Greece could bring down its debt levels without outside intervention. The unfolding debt situation in Greece, which is extending to Spain and Portugal, was among the top agenda items. “I’m confident they can manage this, and manage it well,” said U.S. treasury secretary Tim Geithner. U.S. officials privately said it was inconceivable that Greece would default on its debts. European authorities were involved in a delicate balancing act, taking a “tough love” approach at the same time as reassuring the markets that everything was under control and that IMF intervention would not be needed. “The [ECB’s] governing council approves of the medium-term goal that has been fixed by the Greek government to get the public deficit to less than 3 per cent of GDP in 2012,” said Jean-Claude Trichet, ECB governor. “We expect and we are confident that the Greek government will take all the decisions that will permit it to reach that goal.”⁵⁰ (February 7, 2010, *Financial Times*)

The idea of a global tax on banks gained support at the G7 finance ministers meeting in February. The finance ministers and central bankers called for closer study of a UK proposal. The ministers said any tax that result must be internationally coordinated and avoid choking off world economic recovery. The IMF is compiling a report, due in April, on options for requiring banks to “make a fair and substantial contribution” toward bailouts. The IMF report was requested in September by the G20. “It was generally agreed that the banks will have to pay for crisis costs,” said German finance minister Wolfgang Schaeuble. Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty said officials agreed that financial institutions should “bear the costs of their contributions to those crises.” French finance minister Christine Lagarde said, “We were all in agreement that it had to be a universal taxation or universal levy or instrument to avoid the risk of arbitrage.” IMF managing director Dominique Strauss-Kahn raised the idea of a one-off tax on bank earnings to recoup taxpayer bailout money. British prime minister Gordon Brown gave the bank tax idea a boost in November when he called for considering it “with urgency.”⁵¹ (February 6, 2010, *Reuters News*)

The G7 finance ministers vowed to continue deficit spending to bolster a fragile global recovery. Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty said that the G7 “need to continue to deliver the stimulus to which we are mutually committed, and look ahead to exit strategies.” U.S. treasury secretary Timothy Geithner said, “We have to make sure as not to undermine the global recovery.” British chancellor of the Exchequer Alistair Darling said, “We’re absolutely committed to maintaining support for our economies until the recovery is firmly established,” adding that although “we achieved a lot in 2009” there was still a risk that “the world will forget just how serious the situation was and what more remains to be done.” The G7 ministers also agreed to eliminate Haiti’s debt, to

⁵⁰ *Financial Times* (February 7, 2010), “G7 tries to ease fears over Greek contagion.”

⁵¹ *Reuters News* (February 6, 2010), “G7 wants banks to pay for rescue, details pending.”

“continue to work closely” on banking reforms and to push China to float its currency in line with a policy established in Istanbul in October.⁵² (February 6, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

The G7 finance ministers and central bank governors focused on the role that the G7 should play in the future on the first day of their discussions at their February meeting in Iqaluit. They discussed how to differentiate the G7 from the G20. The G7 ministers and central bankers aimed to place priority on having free and frank discussions, instead of spending much of their talks on work to compile joint statements. French finance minister Christine Lagarde presented a proposal on how the G7 forum should be, but officials failed to reach a consensus while agreeing to continue talks on the issue. Japanese finance minister Naoto Kan said that the G7 forum has its own role to play. The ministers and central bankers did agree that the G7 meetings were useful.⁵³ (February 6, 2010, *Jiji Press English News Service*)

“The recovery is underway and we all agreed to work closer together to solve the financial crisis,” said Canadian finance minister Flaherty after the G7 finance ministers’ meeting on February 5-6. He called the G7 the “first responders” to the recent crisis and reported financial reform and the future of the G7 were also discussed during the frank and relatively informal meeting. Flaherty said that while the G7 no longer plays the leading role it once did, it will continue to evolve in an ever-changing world while contributing to a more stable and prosperous world for all. “Our major concern is economic recovery and financial stability,” he said. “The origin of G7 is fireside chat, to get together and put proposals on issues to inform the important players like the G20 members ... As the recent global crisis made clear, when the G7 Plan of Action served as the foundation for the G20 Washington Action Plan and all that followed, the G7 still has a vital role to play, even as it continues to evolve.”⁵⁴ (February 6, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

China’s policy of pegging the yuan to the dollar, which is seen as keeping its currency artificially weak, is likely to be a key topic at the G7 meeting in early February. Participants will be focused on correcting global trade imbalances, with many calling for shrinking China’s massive trade surplus, which is fuelled by the weak yuan. Also to be discussed are possible exit strategies from the extraordinary fiscal and monetary measures adopted by various governments to ride out the financial crisis. Some will likely argue that it is too soon to wind down its stimulus. Also on the agenda will be the new bank regulations proposed by Obama to ban deposit-taking banks from owning or investing in hedge funds and private-equity firms. “I understand the reasons for limiting risk-taking activities by banks,” said Japanese finance minister Naoto Kan. “But I’ll be watching closely to ensure that the Japanese economy is not adversely affected” through a stock market plunge.⁵⁵ (February 1, 2010, *Nikkei Report*)

⁵² *Agence France Presse* (February 6, 2010), “G7 to continue stimulus until global economy on track.”

⁵³ *Jiji Press English News Service* (February 6, 2010), “Top Finance Officials Focus on the Future Role of G7.”

⁵⁴ *Agence France Presse* (February 6, 2010), “G7 vows to continue stimulus until global economy on track.”

⁵⁵ *Nikkei Report* (February 1, 2010), “China’s Yuan Policy To Headline At G7 Meeting.”

The G7 finance ministers will discuss U.S. financial reform at their February meeting. They will also discuss issues from foreign exchange policies to a new framework for mutually evaluating economic policies. The U.S. bank reform plan drew support from several G7 members, but it is unlikely to be introduced as a G7-wide policy program. Japanese finance minister Naoto Kan said that his country is not currently considering a similar reform.⁵⁶ (February 1, 2010, *Jiji Press English News Service*)

Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty has indicated that Canada is prepared to clamp down on efforts by income trusts that might be trying to avoid tax payments in 2011. He reiterated that Canada has no plans to impose any new taxes or pose additional limits on executive compensation when it comes to Canadian banks. He said the U.S. plan, which would prohibit proprietary trading and ban bank investment in hedge funds and private equity firms, would likely generate much discussion at the G7 finance ministers' meeting in February 2010. Flaherty said he has spoken with his international peers about steps that have been taken and are proposed. He expects "broad-ranging" talks at the February meeting. "We will discuss this in detail," he said. He reiterated, though, Ottawa does not plan to slap new taxes on Canadian banks, or impose new "limits or terms" on executive compensation. "Canadians did not have to put taxpayers' money into our financial institutions. We did not have to bail them out. It is a rather different situation in other jurisdictions, like the U.S.," Flaherty said. The G7 will discuss aid for Haiti and will call on other countries, singling out Taiwan and Venezuela, to cancel outstanding debts with the Caribbean country in an effort to help the country rebuild after the devastating earthquake of January 12.⁵⁷ (January 27, 2010, *Canwest News Service*)

Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty denied that Japanese finance minister Naoto Kan had asked Canada to take up the need for a stronger Chinese yuan at their upcoming financial meeting. Kan has never met Flaherty nor has he contacted him regarding issues to be addressed at the G7 meeting. However, Flaherty said "the new Japanese finance minister has been clear in his wish that ... we have this item on the agenda. So we will have it on the agenda, and we will discuss it together." As at past G7 meetings, currency issues, including reform of China's exchange rate policy, are expected to be among the top agenda items at the forthcoming talks. "It's no surprise that the G7 would discuss currency issues," said one official. "But that does not mean that Japan is taking the initiative in setting out the course of the discussion."⁵⁸ (January 21, 2010, *Kyodo News*)

Japan supports sending a "collective message" to China at the G7 finance ministers meeting to allow more flexibility in the yuan. China has come under heavy pressure from the G7 leading industrialized countries to revalue its currency, which some economists say is kept artificially low, giving it a unfair export advantage and hindering more balanced economic growth. Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty, who will chair the

⁵⁶ *Jiji Press English News Service* (February 1, 2010), "G-7 To Discuss Financial Reform, Economic Policy."

⁵⁷ *Canwest News Service* (January 27, 2010), "Ottawa to clamp down on income trusts."

⁵⁸ *Kyodo News* (January 21, 2010), "Japan did not ask Canada to put Chinese yuan on G7 agenda: officials."

meeting of G7 finance ministers and central bank governors on February 5-6, said he had agreed to Japan's request to discuss the China issue at the meeting but did not say whether he supported issuing a joint message. "It's a collective message to China," Japanese vice finance minister Rintaro Tamaki said on the sidelines of the January 20-21 Asian Financial Forum in Hong Kong when asked about the response to China over the yuan. Flaherty, stressing that the G7 meeting will be less formal than in the past, has been outspoken on the need for a more flexible yuan. "It is a concern when people ask about the weakness in the American dollar, one has to look at the fact that some of the Asian currencies, including the Chinese currency, are artificially constrained," he said. Reform of China's exchange rate policy will be gradual as exports will likely to take a long time to return to pre-crisis levels, said China's commerce minister. The disagreement has highlighted the failure of big countries to resolve currency tensions that were thrown into focus by the global economic crisis, despite calls at the Pittsburgh Summit for them to be tackled. However, moves by China's central bank this month to tighten liquidity and cool rapid economic growth have stoked expectations that Beijing may allow the yuan to appreciate before too long.⁵⁹ (January 20, 2010, *Reuters News*)

Canada says there is a risk that needed financial sector reform to avoid another widespread credit collapse might stall as policy makers in the G7 grow complacent amid a global recovery. This will be a key point of discussion at the February meeting of G7 finance ministers and central bank governors in Iqaluit. G7 countries such as the United States and Britain have a responsibility to complete the reforms they promised. This is crucial, in Canada's view, so that financial markets in the future are better prepared to absorb the type of shock that the global economy just sustained. The U.S. and Britain have moved to slap taxes and levies on banker compensation. However, little progress has been made, especially in the U.S., despite pledges from the Obama administration, on matters such as higher capital ratios and changes to capital funding infrastructure. The policy initiatives remain tied up in Congress. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, IMF managing director, said there needs to be a global focus this year in smarter and stronger financial regulation. The G7 February meeting will be a departure from previous meetings. There will be frank discussions among ministers and central bank governors on so-called core economic issues. Furthermore, there will likely be no final communiqué. Other topics to be discussed in Iqaluit include implementing policies to unwind global imbalances, foreign exchange markets and the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake. Canadian finance minister Jim Flaherty signalled that discussion will have to move from aid to reconstruction in the country.⁶⁰ (January 18, 2010, *Canwest News Service*)

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," 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

⁵⁹ *Reuters News* (January 20, 2010), "Japan supports G7 message to China on yuan."

⁶⁰ *Canwest News Service* (January 18, 2010), "Ottawa hopes remote Iqaluit will focus G7 minds."

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.⁶¹ (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.”⁶² (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.”⁶³ (December 22, 2009, *Dow Jones News Service*)

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

⁶¹ *BBC Monitoring Former Soviet Union* (January 13, 2010), “Russia not to take part in Canada G8 meeting in February-deputy minister.”

⁶² *Kyodo News* (January 11, 2010), “Kan, Geithner confirm G-7 accord to ensure stability in forex.”

⁶³ *Dow Jones News Service* (December 22, 2009), “Flaherty: Talked About Greece with G7 Counterparts.”

beautiful scene I've ever seen in Canada." Flaherty has not yet confirmed whether Russia would be invited to the meeting.⁶⁴ (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 2010.⁶⁵ (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.⁶⁶ (October 5, 2009, *Guardian Unlimited*)

G20 Finance Ministers

(See "Plans for the Fourth G20 Summit" for details on all G20-related events at <www.g20.utoronto.ca/g20plans>.)

G8 Foreign Ministers

On March 29-30 in Gatineau, Quebec, G8 foreign ministers affirmed the need to take "strong steps" against Iran over its disputed nuclear program and urged North Korea to return to the Six-Party Talks without precondition. Expressing concerns over countries threatening to undermine the nuclear non-proliferation regime, they vowed to "redouble efforts" in such areas as the pursuit of nuclear arsenal reductions ahead of a key conference to review the operation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. The messages were included in a chair's statement and a separate document on nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and the peaceful uses of technology. Calling Iran's continued non-compliance with its international obligations a serious concern, the chair's statement said the ministers "urged in the strongest possible terms" that Iran comply with relevant UN Security Council resolutions calling for the country to halt uranium enrichment. But the ministers also revealed differences over whether to impose fresh sanctions on Iran. "The last 15 months have demonstrated clearly the unwillingness of Iran to fulfill its

⁶⁴ *Globe and Mail* (November 19, 2009), "Iqaluit in February? G7 ministers better bundle up."

⁶⁵ *Reuters News* (October 7, 2009), "Canada to host G7 finance ministers early February."

⁶⁶ *Guardian Unlimited* (October 5, 2009), "G7 makes way for G20 and emerging nations."

international obligations,” said U.S. secretary of state Hillary Clinton. “And that’s the basis on which I expressed my optimism that we are going to have a consensus reached in the Security Council.” But Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov said that the G8 foreign ministerial meeting was not the negotiating forum for sanctions. He also said China, another veto-wielding permanent member of the UNSC, is reluctant to impose sanctions on Tehran. On North Korea, the G8 ministers also “strongly” urged the return to the long-stalled Six-Party Talks. They also called on North Korea to address the concerns of the international community about the humanitarian situation in the reclusive country, including issues related to its past abductions of Japanese nationals. As for efforts to realize a world without nuclear weapons, the ministers applauded the recent accord between the U.S. and Russia to reduce their nuclear arsenals further, and vowed their commitment to create the conditions for achieving that goal. The statement said the ministers will intensify efforts “on practical measures to accomplish that purpose, such as the pursuit of comprehensive reductions of nuclear arsenals.” The ministers also affirmed their “unequivocal support” for the NPT as “the cornerstone of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament.” The discussions among the ministers also covered the situation in Myanmar, where pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi is barred from participating in the general election this year under the military junta’s new election laws. The Myanmar government should “enable full democratic participation” in the upcoming election and “release all political prisoners” including Suu Kyi, the statement said. Among other issues, the ministers reaffirmed their commitment to support Afghanistan and strongly condemned the deadly terrorist attacks at two central Moscow subway stations.⁶⁷ (March 30, 2010, Kyodo News)

Canadian minister of foreign affairs Lawrence Cannon announced a G8-led initiative to build trade and border infrastructure in the volatile Afghanistan and Pakistan regions at the G8 foreign ministers meeting. The project, called the Afghanistan-Pakistan Border Region Prosperity Initiative, intends to foster economic development and local employment in the border region, according to a release. The G8 developed the initiative in consultation with the governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. The initiative follows closely similar projects, such as the Dubai Process (the name of a Canadian-facilitated workshop between Afghanistan and Pakistan) that was held in March 2009 with the goal of improving border management. That workshop resulted in an agreement between the two countries to open their three legal crossing points seven days a week, from the previous five days. It also led to discussions to develop a customs-to-customs agreement between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Other developments included agreements on immigration and law enforcement officials, counter-narcotics and the movement of people. Since 2007, Canada has been facilitating these workshops to “enhance understanding and confidence between Pakistani and Afghan officials,” according to the federal government. The workshops are in keeping with the foreign ministers of Afghanistan and Pakistan and the

⁶⁷ *Kyodo News* (March 30, 2010), “G8 vows ‘strong steps’ on Iran, committed to nuke-free world.”

G8 foreign ministers' Potsdam Statement of 2007.⁶⁸ (March 29, 2010, *Canwest News Service*)

“G8 foreign ministers today strongly condemned the cowardly terrorist attacks on the Moscow subway that took place earlier this morning, and which have killed numerous innocent civilians and injured dozens more,” said Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon said on behalf of his G8 counterparts at their meeting in Gatineau, Quebec, on March 29. “Ministers expressed their deepest sympathy to all who have been injured or bereaved by these attacks, and called for the prosecution of all those responsible ... They vowed that they would continue to collaborate to thwart and constrain terrorists, and to work for a world that is safe for all, based on the principles of democracy, and respect for the rule of law and for human rights.”⁶⁹ (March 29, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

The G8 foreign ministers will discuss nuclear nonproliferation, terrorism and issues involving Afghanistan and Pakistan when they gather in Gatineau, Canada, on March 29-30, said Canadian foreign minister Lawrence Cannon. Nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament constitute one of the three key agenda items at a time when North Korea is still pursuing its nuclear program and Iran is coming close to being able to build a nuclear weapon. Canada also hopes to discuss the consequences of terrorism and how to support countries with security vulnerabilities, Cannon said. Issues of peace and stability on the Afghan-Pakistani border and ways for the G8 countries to assist the two countries will also be on the agenda.⁷⁰ (March 20, 2010, *Kyodo News*)

The three priorities for discussion at the G8 foreign ministers meeting on March 29-30 in Gatineau, Quebec, will be nuclear nonproliferation, Afghanistan and Pakistan and capacity building to address security vulnerabilities.⁷¹ (March 18, 2010, *Government of Canada*)

Canada will press for G8 countries to agree on a unified set of new sanctions aimed at Iran's nuclear weapons program. Foreign affairs minister Lawrence Cannon said, “Canada obviously will be very present with the other countries to support initiatives that either come from the UN Security Council or that might stem from discussions that would take place on the margins of the G8, or at the G8 summit.” A resolution is being prepared for debate at the UNSC, but veto-wielding China prefers more diplomacy. Canada wants the G8 to act if the UN won't. Cannon signalled that Canada will press for the G8 to take action at the foreign ministers' meeting on March 29-30, “where that could be indeed determined.” Most G8 countries are lobbying for tougher action against Iran's nuclear program. Previously reluctant, Russia has signalled a greater willingness to impose sanctions. Its support could influence China, Iran's biggest trading partner, to use its sway with Tehran. Western allies are hoping momentum for UN sanctions will be

⁶⁸ *Canwest News Service* (March 29, 2010), “Cannon announces G8 border project for Afghanistan and Pakistan.”

⁶⁹ *Agence France Presse* (March 29, 2010), “G8 ministers denounce Moscow bombings.”

⁷⁰ *Kyodo News* (March 20, 2010), “G-8 foreign ministers to discuss nuclear nonproliferation, terrorism.”

⁷¹ *Government of Canada* (March 18, 2010), “Foreign Ministers.” Accessed 19 March 2010. Available from: <<http://g8.gc.ca/ministers-meetings/foreign-ministers/>>

fuelled by the recent report by International Atomic Energy Agency chief Yukiya Amano, who said the agency cannot rule out the possibility that Iran is developing nuclear weapons because Tehran has not cooperated with inspectors. The pace of the UNSC debate will likely determine how the stance the G8 foreign ministers will take. Cannon wants the G8 ministers to commit to coordinating collective efforts to address security gaps in weak states that can serve as staging grounds for organized crime or terrorism. At the top of that list will be Yemen, the Arabian Gulf's poorest country, which has weak government control and is a dangerous training ground for terrorists, including foiled Christmas Day bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab from Nigeria. Several G8 countries have programs in weak North African and Gulf states dealing with border controls, counterterrorism or nuclear-material smuggling. However, Cannon said, "you don't see a coordinated approach." Abdulla Nasher, Yemen's former ambassador to Canada, said a long-running problem is the various security programs to help cash-strapped Yemen, which cannot secure its territory or coasts against a northern rebellion and al Qaeda. "They should diagnose what the problem is in Yemen — is it coast guard, is it police, is it systems, is it organization?" he said. "And each member of the G8, one can put in money, one equipment, but there should be a committee who will oversee the solutions."⁷² (March 2, 2010, *Globe and Mail*)

Russian deputy foreign minister Sergei Ryabkov met with his counterparts to discuss the preparation of a meeting of G8 foreign ministers. "On January 21-22, the first meeting of the G8 political directors was held under Canadian chairmanship in the city of Quebec, Canada," he said. "During the meeting, the preparation of a meeting of the G8 foreign ministers (in Gatineau, Quebec, on March 29-30, was discussed, the agenda of which will be dominated by non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, coordination of assistance to countries in post-conflict settlement, the situation in Afghanistan and in the Afghanistan-Pakistan border area," the ministry said. The diplomats also touched upon international aid to the population of earthquake-stricken Haiti and some regional problems.⁷³ (January 23, 2010, *ITAR-TASS World Service*)

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 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."⁷⁴ (November 10, 2009, *RIA Oreanda*)

⁷² *Globe and Mail* (March 2, 2010), "Canada pushes G8 nations on Iran sanctions; Foreign ministers crafting new initiatives aimed at Tehran's nuclear-weapons program."

⁷³ *ITAR-TASS World Service* (January 23, 2010), "Russian, foreign diplomats discuss preparations ministerial meeting."

⁷⁴ *RIA Oreanda* (November 10, 2009), "Statement of G8 Foreign Ministers on Afghanistan Presidential Election."

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.”⁷⁵ (November 6, 2009, *Xinhua News Agency*)

G8 Development Ministers

G8 development ministers will meet in Halifax on April 26-28 to lay the groundwork for talks on maternal and child health. Canadian international cooperation minister Bev Oda said the meeting will identify proposals to be discussed by G8 leaders in Muskoka in June. She said a central focus will be on ways to improve the health of women and children in developing contry.^{76,77} (February 18, 2010, *Canadian Press*; February 19, 2010, *Ottawa Citizen*)

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

⁷⁵ *Xinhua News Agency* (November 6, 2009), “Canada to host G8 foreign ministers meeting next March.”

⁷⁶ *Canadian Press* (February 18, 2010), “G8 — Children.”

⁷⁷ *Ottawa Citizen* (February 19, 2010), “Nova Soctia. Halifax to host G8 ministers.”

poor, it's critical because when you break it, you kill them.”⁷⁸ (December 4, 2008, *Waterloo Region Record*)

Activities

Britain held a meeting on January 25 on the practicality of levying extraordinary taxes on financial institutions in the wake of the financial crisis. The meeting included officials from the G7, the IMF, World Bank and academics, where they talked about the “practical challenges” of “implementing insurance levies.” British prime minister Gordon Brown urged leading economies, including the U.S., France and Germany, to consider a tax on financial transactions to make banks more accountable to society. Brown has pressed the idea of a Tobin tax but said countries could also consider an insurance scheme aimed at preventing a repeat of the multi-billion dollar state bailouts of banks caused by the financial crisis.⁷⁹ (January 18, 2010, *Agence France Presse*)

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 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 2005.⁸⁰ (March 19, 2009, *Toronto Star*)

Nongovernmental Organizations

Human rights groups have called for political leaders to fulfill their commitments toward universal access for antiretroviral treatment. The AIDS and Rights Alliance of Southern Africa, the Treatment Action Campaign and Médecins Sans Frontières warned that international donors might cut funding for the life-saving drugs. They were speaking on the eve of a high-level meeting in London on the G8’s commitment to ensure universal access to treatment by the end of this year. Worldwide more than 4 million people have received treatment while at least 5.5 million still cannot access treatment. Andile Madondile of the Treatment Action Campaign said there was no need to slow down and undo the access achievements. “That has been a great achievement but we need to put more people on treatment,” he said. “We need to save the lives of the poorest.” He said funding cut backs to treatment would endanger other critical interventions such as HIV testing. “People will be reluctant to test once they know they won’t get treatment after testing positive. Others will be drawn into using quackery medicine.” The group said flat

⁷⁸ *Waterloo Region Record*, (December 4, 2008), “Geldof: economic crisis no excuse to cut foreign aid.”

⁷⁹ *Agence France Presse* (January 18, 2010), “Britain to host bank tax talks.”

⁸⁰ *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.”

funding for HIV treatment would have crippling consequences on health systems.⁸¹ (March 9, 2010, *All Africa*)

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.⁸² (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 2010.⁸³ (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.⁸⁴ (July 7, 2008, *Globe and Mail*)

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

⁸¹ *All Africa* (March 9, 2010), “Countries Not Keeping HIV Promises – Aids Activists.”

⁸² *CanWest News Service* (November 3, 2009), “Canada backs measures to bolster Muslim worlds businesses, NGOs.”

⁸³ *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.”

⁸⁴ *Globe and Mail* (July 7, 2008), “Canada a laggard on African aid: groups.”

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>