

International anti-poverty group singles out Canada and Harper for condemnation

Three countries - France, Canada, and Italy - threaten to undermine world efforts - Avaaz.



OTTAWA, Sept. 24, 2008: The prestigious international anti-poverty organization [Avaaz](#) has called Canada one of the three worst offenders in the global fight against poverty.

"World leaders gather this Thursday at the United Nations to renew the fight against extreme poverty," reported an appeal from the organization. "But three countries -- France, Canada, and Italy -- are threatening to undermine the world's anti poverty efforts, by slashing their development aid budgets and breaking their international promises.

Avaaz accuses Canada of reneging on development funding. "In Canada, which kept 99.7% of its income last year, Stephen Harper seems more interested in winning his election than in upholding Canada's tradition of moral leadership," the organization charges.

It is urging its members and citizens around the world to flood the Canadian government with emails as part of "sending Harper, Sarkozy, and Berlusconi a clear signal that we expect them to keep to their word."

Courtesy of the Harper Index ([HarperIndex.ca](#)) a project of the [Golden Lake Institute](#) and the online publication [StraightGoods.ca](#)