



International Development Act 2002

2002 CHAPTER 1

PART 1

ASSISTANCE

Provision of assistance

1 Development assistance

- (1) The Secretary of State may provide any person or body with development assistance if he is satisfied that the provision of the assistance is likely to contribute to a reduction in poverty.
- (2) In this Act “development assistance” means assistance provided for the purpose of—
 - (a) furthering sustainable development in one or more countries outside the United Kingdom, or
 - (b) improving the welfare of the population of one or more such countries.
- (3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(a) “sustainable development” includes any development that is, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, prudent having regard to the likelihood of its generating lasting benefits for the population of the country or countries in relation to which it is provided.

2 Development assistance for British overseas territories

The Secretary of State may also provide any person or body with development assistance in a case where the requirement of section 1(1) is not met, if the assistance is provided in relation to one or more of the territories for the time being mentioned in Schedule 6 to the British Nationality Act 1981 (c. 61) (British overseas territories).

3 Humanitarian assistance

The Secretary of State may provide any person or body with assistance for the purpose of alleviating the effects of a natural or man-made disaster or other emergency on the population of one or more countries outside the United Kingdom.

4 Supplementary powers

- (1) The Secretary of State may with a view to preparing for or facilitating the exercise of his powers under section 1, 2 or 3—
 - (a) enter into arrangements with any person or body (including arrangements to provide assistance), or
 - (b) carry on any other activities.
- (2) The Secretary of State may—
 - (a) support, by way of subscription or otherwise, any organisation that exists (wholly or partly) for one or more relevant purposes,
 - (b) contribute to any fund that is intended to be used (wholly or partly) for one or more relevant purposes, or
 - (c) promote, or assist any person or body to promote, awareness of global poverty and of the means of reducing such poverty,if he is satisfied that to do so is likely to contribute to a reduction in poverty.
- (3) Subsection (2) is without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1).
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (2) “relevant purpose” means—
 - (a) a purpose mentioned in section 1(2)(a) or (b) or 3, or
 - (b) a purpose that broadly corresponds to such a purpose.