

Ruud Lubbers becomes the new High Commissioner for Refugees in January 2001. Will his period of office see action to put Africa's displacement crises at the forefront of international attention? The startling facts:



World Wildlife Fund for Nature

- *40% of all those displaced from their homes are Africans.*
- *Sixty per cent of Africa's uprooted people are from four countries: Sudan (4.4 million uprooted); Angola (2.5 million); Burundi (1.1 million); Democratic Republic of the Congo (1.6 million).*
- *Nearly one-third of all African refugees are seeking asylum in countries that are themselves experiencing armed conflict. 1.2 million African refugees have fled to potentially unsafe asylum countries.*
- *In 1999 donor governments gave \$207 for every person in need in former Yugoslavia and \$8 per head for those in need in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.*
- *One of every nine uprooted people worldwide is Sudanese.*
- *European Union emergency assistance to former Yugoslavia in 1999 was four times the amount given to the 70 ACP (Africa/Caribbean/Pacific) states.*

