

Canada to fast-track Haitian adoptions.

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OTTAWA – The federal government is fast-tracking the adoption of up to 100 Haitian children, Immigration Minister Jason Kenney announced Wednesday.

Kenney announced temporary resident permits will be issued and fees waived. The government is contacting 100 families who are at different stages of adoption procedures for Haitian children that were underway before last week's devastating earthquake.

Those who were already approved by the Haitian government "will be extracted as quickly as possible" and brought to Canada Kenney said.

Others will have to wait for Haiti's approval and the government there is establishing a committee to approve foreign adoptions.

Also Wednesday, Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said Canada stands ready to contribute peacekeepers and police as requested by the United Nations "when conditions to deploy allow."

The Overall security situation in Port-au-Prince is stable with "limited and localized" violence and looting in areas that were already considered high risk for violence.

About 1,000 Canadian Forces members are in Haiti now.