

Canada has made its first quota contribution equivalent to a full annual assessment to the regular budget of the Pan American Health Organization which it joined on September 27, 1971. PAHO now has 29 member governments.

Presentation of the \$982,992 cheque was made by Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, to Dr. Abraham Horwitz, Director of the Pan American Sanitary Bureau at PAHO headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Canada's contribution is fourth largest after the United States, Mexico and Argentina.

When presenting the Canadian contribution Mr. Sharp said: "I am happy that we have been able to conclude arrangements through which Canada is assuming its full share in PAHO's important work. Canada is taking its place as a partner and as an active member of this organization. As my colleague, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, the Honourable John Munro, stated on the occasion of our admission to PAHO: 'We hope we can contribute; we know we will learn'".

PAHO is the first inter-American agency that Canada has joined following a formal review of its foreign policy in 1970. A main recommendation of the review dealt with the strengthening of links with other countries of the Americas and relations with various inter-American organizations.

Canada is now engaged in discussions concerning full membership in the Inter-American Development Bank, and has announced its intention to join the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, the headquarters of which is in San José, Costa Rica.

PAHO, along with the World Health Organization, carries out some 600 health projects in the Americas.