

profits from existing ones. This scheme has the added advantages of improving the public profile of the United Nations and permitting direct identification with a "good cause" by individual citizens through the purchase of lottery tickets. This suggestion does not require much in the way of start-up costs (existing networks could be used) and would then be self-financing on a monthly or other regular basis. It has the added advantage of not requiring unanimity from member states. Indeed, a limited number of like-minded countries could kick-start the process just in their own jurisdictions. Questions remain, however, about the regressive income-distributive nature of such a proposition as well as the more fundamental question concerning the UN's independence of action once it possessed a steady revenue base outside contributions by member state governments (although governments would of course retain the ultimate legal authority to cancel the lottery).

Options for Canada: Recommendations and Conclusions

- Canada should encourage the informal consultation process within the Ginger Group of good global citizens to put pressure on late payers. It is clear, however, that the bulk of the problem does not hinge on late payments of small payers. Further low-key lobbying in Washington would definitely help. The Ginger Group could also helpfully focus on certain other laggards who should be doing better.
- Canada should continue to call for the United Nations to implement the recommendations of the 1993 Volcker/Ogata study on financial reform with respect to arrears and late payments¹⁰; and support the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group. If the process seems moribund, Canada could call for the creation of a Volcker/Ogata II Commission under our chairmanship.
- If Canada believes that a more efficient, tightly-run United Nations could benefit from an external and independent source of financing, Canada could sound out with other "like-minded" the relevant merits of, for example, the fishing rights levy and the UN lottery proposal as discussed above.

¹⁰ In brief, Volcker/Ogata agrees on the need to revise assessments but also calls for all members to pay their dues on time, in four quarterly instalments. The UN would be given the authority to charge interest on late payments. The Working Capital Fund (WCF) would be increased and replenishment could be aided by crediting budgetary surpluses owed to member states with arrears to the WCF.