



Bulletin

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EXTERNAL AID OFFICE REORGANIZED

Mr. Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced an extensive reorganization of Canada's External Aid Office, following a year of intensive studies necessitated by the increasingly complex requirements of international development assistance and Canada's growing role in this sphere.

Mr. Martin pointed out that the aid programme had tripled in size since 1963-64, to its current level of more than \$300 million. Of equal significance, he said, was the need to ensure effective use of Canadian aid funds and Canadian skills and resources, now concentrated to an increasing extent in areas where they could make a maximum impact on economic development.

The proliferation of external-assistance schemes in recent years has created the need for a more comprehensive, professional approach to the administration of aid, for better analysis of the requirements of recipient countries in relation to Canada's capacity, for improved assessment of project requests and for better evaluation of projects during and after their implementation.

PLANNING AND ECONOMICS

An important extension to the administration role of the External Aid Office is a Planning and Economics Branch, under the direction of Mr. L.D. Hudon, who is also Canadian executive director of the World Bank. Besides meeting the need for a thorough evaluation of all requests for Canadian aid, this Branch will provide the programme with expert advice on Canada's human and physical resources and maintain relations with the private sector and with multi-lateral development-assistance agencies.

The development and implementation of projects is now the responsibility of the Operations Branch, under Mr. George Kidd, former Minister (Economics), Canadian Embassy in Washington. This Branch contains the divisions which oversee large capital projects, recruit Canadian teachers and experts for service abroad and arrange training programmes for foreign students sponsored by the Canadian Government. Provision has been made for a co-ordinating function, designed to facilitate the development of projects in which all these elements of aid are combined.

Calling attention to the Government's policy of encouraging greater participation in international development by non-governmental agencies, business and industry, Mr. Martin said that the External Aid Office would draw to a growing extent on the skills and experience available in Canada. More and more Canadians, he said, would be involved in some aspect of the international development task.

"There has been a growing awareness that aid is only one of a number of factors, including trade, tariff, commercial and taxation policies through which a country such as Canada can affect significantly the economic and social progress of developing countries," he added. "These factors must be evaluated as alternatives and complements to direct