

UNICEF

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) was established by the General Assembly in December 1946 to provide emergency aid to children in war-devastated countries following the termination of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). In 1950 its terms of reference were revised and, while continuing to provide emergency relief for children in catastrophes, it placed emphasis on long-range programmes of child care, particularly in under-developed countries. In 1953, the General Assembly voted unanimously to make the UNICEF a continuing part of the United Nations work for an indefinite period.

The aim of the UNICEF is to promote permanent health, nutrition and welfare services for children through programmes which countries can continue after the initial stimulus provided by the Fund. The UNICEF aid is provided only at the request of governments, and those requesting it must be prepared to put into the programme amounts at least equal to those received from the UNICEF. This requirement encourages serious consideration before requests are made. It doubles the amount of money made available for the projects by the UNICEF, and it establishes the basis for the continuation of the projects after the UNICEF aid is terminated.

The Fund is financed through voluntary contributions from governments and private associations. During 1961, the Fund approved commitments of \$37 million to various projects, an increase of \$6.4 million over 1960. In 1961 its total income from all sources amounted to nearly \$28 million, compared with \$25.8 million in 1960. Canada has contributed about \$13.3 million to the UNICEF during the period 1946-62, making Canada the second largest contributor. In addition, during the same period, Canada has donated over 62.8 million pounds of whole and skim milk powder. In 1962, the Canadian Government plans to increase its contribution from \$650,000 to \$800,000.

EPTA

Soon after its establishment, the United Nations embarked on a programme of technical assistance to raise the very low levels among those countries having static or barely expanding economies and whose people, therefore, lived close to bare subsistence levels. It was evident that extensive co-ordinated efforts would have to be made to mobilize and bring to bear the technical skills of the advanced countries on the areas of great need. Consequently, the General Assembly established in 1949 the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA). This programme involves the training in advanced countries of students from the under-developed countries and the sending of experts and advisers to backward areas, exchange of technical information, organized examination of economic development programmes and equipment supplies for the use of experts and trainees. About three-quarters of United Nations technical assistance expenditures go normally for the provision of experts to under-developed countries.

The EPTA supplements the regular programmes of technical assistance for the United Nations and certain Specialized Agencies and constitutes the greater part of the total United Nations technical assistance effort. The programme is financed by voluntary extra-budgetary contributions from member countries and is carried out by the Specialized Agencies and the Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations (TAO), under the co-ordination of the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) and the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC).