

the Fund receives financial support from 119 countries and is currently assisting projects in 117 countries and territories in developing regions. As the ECOSOC resolution has noted, project assistance, while not disregarding emergency aid, is increasingly being directed to programs that develop long term benefits to mothers and children, a trend that my country supports. There is always the temptation -- a very proper and understandable temptation -- to respond to the most immediate and pressing needs. They are immense. They are present in differing ways in the lives of 900 million children. An yet, Madame Chairman, if the cycle that perpetuates those needs is to be broken, assistance must be given to projects that effectively break the cycle. UNICEF assistance is particularly well suited to that task in that its program has a major catalytic effect in the national development programs of many countries. I might mention in this connection the extremely important role played by the UNICEF field staff in assisting national planners and other government officials in understanding that investment in children and youth is investment in future developmental capacity. The humanitarian objectives of the Fund have a very practical consequence -- one that is vital to the longer term goals of social progress.

The ECOSOC Resolution commended the Fund for its close co-operation with the Specialized and other agencies of the United Nations family. At a time when the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Coordination is undertaking a review of the whole question of coordination, it is particularly appropriate to draw the Third Committee's attention to this important feature of the UNICEF