

Delivered by Professor R. St. John Macdonald

Mr. Chairman,

The ECOSOC Report reflects growing awareness of the need for greater resources for social development and at the same time it emphasizes the importance of using such resources efficiently and to maximum advantage within the development plans of member states. It reaffirms the interrelatedness of social and economic development.

Coming as it does at midpoint of the Development Decade, the Report requires serious consideration, because it identifies problems which have contributed to unevenness in social development during the past five years. ^{my Del} Canada therefore supports those sections which call for intensified efforts in this area of international activity and congratulates ECOSOC and the Social Commission for the attention which is being given to the role of the United Nations in the social field, and particularly to the role that the Social Commission should play in fostering concerted and coordinated activity in this field.

As no resolutions ^{appear to be} are before the Third Committee, the following comments, Mr. Chairman, are offered by way of a general reaction to the ECOSOC Report. As far as paragraphs 406 - 408 ^(which deal with targets of Social Development) are concerned, it is our view that the Secretariat should be encouraged in its efforts to obtain more information on social targets. We would urge member states to reply to the letter now being circulated by the Secretary-General because we think that only as such information is obtained and assessed can the United Nations play an effective role in the matter of priority determination in the social field.