

financed by voluntary contributions. The countries that receive the assistance contribute the local counterpart costs of the development projects. Total pledges now surpass \$550 million (U.S.) annually. Approved UNDP projects are carried out by "executing agencies", which include the Specialized Agencies, UNCTAD, UNIDO and the United Nations itself. For the five-year period 1972-76, financing was approved that totalled over \$1,250 million (U.S.) in 118 countries. In *Foreign Policy for Canadians*, published in 1970, the Canadian Government stated its intention of increasing its support of the UNDP on evidence that its effectiveness was being improved. The 1975-80 Strategy for International Development Co-operation reaffirmed Canada's active support for international institutions in building co-operative relations and mobilizing and channeling resources for development. The UNDP has a mandate to fulfil the role of the central funding organization for UN technical-assistance activities and Canada regrets any tendency that recent financial or managerial difficulties may have created to detract from this central position. Canada has been one of the major supporters of the UNDP and its predecessor programs. From their inception to March 31, 1978, Canada contributed a total of \$225 million (U.S.). Canada's 1978 contribution of \$34.6 million (U.S.) will be the eighth-largest, representing about 5.8 per cent of all contributions.

The *Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees* was established by the General Assembly in 1949. For its purposes a refugee is

defined as a person who has left his native country and does not enjoy the same rights as the citizens of his country of residence. The primary task of the UNHCR is to provide legal protection and emergency relief such as food and medical supplies to refugees who are not receiving assistance from other United Nations organizations. A second task of great importance is that of integrating refugees into the community life of the countries that take them in. The High Commissioner's program is administered by an executive committee composed of representatives of 31 states, including Canada.

From 1951 to 1978 Canada contributed \$10.25 million (Cdn) to the UNHCR's regular budget, and last year it pledged \$850,000 (Cdn).

The *United Nations Children's Fund* was established by the General Assembly in December 1946 to provide emergency aid to the children of war-devastated countries on the termination that year of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). In 1950, UNICEF's terms of reference were revised and, while the provision of emergency relief for children remained important, new emphasis was placed on long-range programs of child-care, particularly in developing countries. In 1953, the General Assembly voted unanimously to continue UNICEF for an indefinite period. Contributions to the agency are made by governments, private organizations and individuals. In 1978, the Canadian Government pledged a contribution of \$8.6 million (Cdn), which will bring Canada's total contribution since the