

help the surplus capacity countries out of difficulties they may now or in the future experience. I hope the Committee will forgive me labouring that point, but it is a fact that my government sincerely hopes that this programme, starting modestly as it is bound to, will in time grow in scope and effectiveness during the coming decade to the point where it will be able to play a most important role in contributing to the solution of hunger and chronic malnutrition in the world today. We have urged, and will continue to urge, that the cash component of the contributions will be at least one-third, in order that the Programme may be flexible enough to meet the requirements of those in need, not just an outlet for what surplus producing countries may have available. No surplus producing country can expect to gain the support of non-surplus countries and commercial exporters for this Programme, unless this is the aim.

Mr. Chairman, may I conclude my remarks with a brief summary of some of the basic considerations which my delegation hopes will be reflected in proposals put forward by the Intergovernmental Committee of Twenty.

In the first place - and perhaps most important - we believe that the proposals which they put forward should be such as to attract the widest possible support. From the very beginning, the World Food Programme must be truly multilateral, both in terms of membership and of financial support.

Furthermore, we believe that in its initial experimental stage, the Programme should proceed with a judicious blend of caution (as it gains experience and strength) and zeal (as it attacks the most urgent and pressing problems which it is called upon to solve). Let us not court frustration by being