

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 1976, Canada contributed \$9.4 million (Cdn) to the UNHCR's regular budget, and for 1977 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 1977, the Canadian Government pledged a contribution of \$5.25 million (Cdn), which will bring Canada's total contribution since the inception of UNICEF to about \$39.1 million (Cdn). In 1976, contributions from private sources in Canada reached nearly \$3 million (Cdn), indicating broad public support for UNICEF activities in Canada.

The *United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees* was established in 1949 to provide relief and rehabilitation for some 684,000 Arab refugees who had lost their homes and their means of livelihood as a result of the Palestine hostilities of 1948-49. By 1976, the registered refugees numbered more than 1.7 million. UNRWA also conducts an educational and vocational-training program, which the Canadian Government believes to be vital to the maintenance of peace in the area and to the ultimate rehabilita-