

are playing our part in this task by increasing rapidly our own aid programme--a programme which we shall, wherever possible, closely co-ordinate with the activities of multi-lateral organizations such as UNDP. Our current annual aid programme now stands at nearly \$300 million and the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs recently said, by the early 1970's we expect to have increased our allocations for aid purposes to a level where they will be roughly equivalent to one per cent of our national income. At the same time, we will be constantly striving to improve the quality of aid.

Mr. President, Canada has been, and will continue to be, a strong supporter of the United Nations Development Programme. In the last two years the substantial increases in our annual contributions, reflected the importance we attach to the attainment of the Programme's current annual target of \$200 million. When making our pledge last year, we also took into account increased requests for assistance which will presumably result from the recent establishment of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. For 1968, with these considerations in mind, Canada intends, subject to the approval of our Parliament, to contribute a total of Canadian dollars 10,750,000 to the Programme for technical assistance and pre-investment activities.

In conformity with our belief that a well-administered unified programme is the most effective instrument for multilateral-aid disbursement, we leave it to the Administrator of UNDP to apportion and utilize these funds as he sees fit. We are sure that his sound judgement and broad perspective of international aid administration will ensure the continuity of this most effective channel for multi-lateral aid funds.

Mr. President, in conclusion I should like to quote from the recent statement to the General Assembly of the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs. He said, "The future of the United Nations system as an effective instrument of international co-operation is directly related to its ability to make an increasing contribution to overcoming the glaring disparities in living standards which mark today's world." The United Nations Development Programme stands as a landmark in the efforts being made to remove such disparities and to lead to a better, more prosperous and more peaceful world.