

The Negotiating Committee consults with member and non-member states of the United Nations to ascertain what amounts they will contribute on a voluntary basis to each of the "operational" or special United Nations programmes which are approved by the General Assembly. Funds are not available from the United Nations regular budget for these special operational programmes (the regular budget covers only administrative costs), and so the Negotiating Committee is specifically requested by the Assembly to obtain pledges of voluntary contributions from governments for the five<sup>1</sup> special operational programmes which are currently being undertaken. The Negotiating Committee sent letters to delegations for the information of their governments outlining the financial requirements of the special programmes, held a number of general meetings for the announcement of pledges of contributions, and members of the Negotiating Committee personally approached representatives of governments with a view to stimulating interest in, and support for, the different programmes.

The following list shows Canada's contributions to these special programmes for 1955, 1956 and 1957:

	1955 \$	1956 \$	1957 <sup>2</sup> \$
U.N. Children's Fund .....	500,000	650,000	650,000
U.N. Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance	1,500,000	1,800,000	2,000,000
U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East .....	500,000	500,000	750,000 <sup>3</sup>
U.N. Korean Reconstruc- tion Agency .....	500,000	—	—
U.N. Refugee Fund .....	125,000	125,000	200,000
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	\$3,125,000	\$3,075,000	\$3,600,000

For a number of years the efforts of the Negotiating Committee have been unsuccessful in meeting the financial targets set for some of these funds by the General Assembly, especially the targets set for the two special programmes concerned with refugee work. The Committee drew attention to this, and to the unfavourable effect this shortfall in funds might have on United Nations prestige; the Negotiating Committee then suggested a new procedure for raising the necessary funds. This new procedure would start with the twelfth session in 1957, and under it the General Assembly would set up each year an *ad hoc* committee of the whole; when this *ad hoc* committee of the whole met, pledges of contributions for all of the special programmes for the following year would be announced. (In past years

<sup>1</sup>See above "Aid for Korea", pp. 57-58; "Assistance to Palestine Arab Refugees" pp. 58-59; "Aid for Children", pp. 59-60; "Technical Assistance", pp. 60-62; and "Aid for Refugees", pp. 62-65.

<sup>2</sup>These 1957 contributions are subject to the appropriation of the funds by Parliament.

<sup>3</sup>UNRWA has recently changed its fiscal year to a calendar fiscal year and this contribution therefore covers an 18-month period.