

79. In reply to this, the Canadian delegation submitted proposals calling for the establishment of a special technical committee of experts to study the minimum import requirements of the basic essentials of life for countries which might be in need of relief; and to report on the amount of financial assistance required by each of these countries. This proposal was adopted by the General Assembly and a special committee, consisting of ten members, was established by the General Assembly for this purpose.

80. The findings of this special committee were completed in January 1947, and, after inconclusive discussion in the Economic and Social Council, this matter was placed again on the agenda of the General Assembly for its Session in the autumn of 1947. In the Assembly debates which ensued, the Eastern European states strongly attacked the United States' post-UNRRA relief policy on the grounds that relief had been granted for political reasons rather than on the basis of need. In reply to the contentions of the Eastern European representatives the United States and other countries which had granted post-UNRRA relief gave details of the aid granted by them during this period. It soon became apparent that it would not be possible for the Economic Committee or for the General Assembly to adopt a generally acceptable resolution on this subject in view of the sharp political controversy which has been aroused. Hence no recommendation was adopted on this subject at the 1947 Assembly.

81. At the 1946 Assembly the Canadian delegation had strongly urged that the continuing problem of relief in war devastated areas should be accepted as an international responsibility. Canada, therefore, participated in the activities of the technical committee which was established, on the basis of a Canadian proposal, to determine the extent to which relief was needed. Also, on July 31, 1947, contributions were made available by the Canadian Government for European relief to the amount of \$17,900,000. Of this sum, \$5,000,000 was made available for the International Children's Emergency Fund (I.C.E.F.), thus making Canada one of the major contributors to the I.C.E.F. Again, under the authority of the Export Credits Insurance Act, Canada had, up to June 12, 1948, advanced credits to eight different countries to the amount of \$508,077,328.10 (out of a total of authorized credits of \$594,500,000). Canada has also agreed to subscribe \$325,000,000 to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the purpose of helping to finance the rebuilding of devastated areas; and in March of 1946, as is well known, the Canadian Government granted a loan of \$1,250,000,000 to the United Kingdom. As mentioned earlier, Canada became a member of the International Refugee Organization in the summer of 1947 and the Canadian contribution to the I.R.O. amounted to approximately \$5,500,000 in 1947. Finally, independent Canadian groups, working on a voluntary basis, have made shipments of supplies and cash transfers to people living in war devastated areas to the amount of \$17,992,404.59 from January of 1947 to April of 1948 inclusive. From September of 1939 to the present date, Canadian voluntary overseas relief totals more than \$100,000,000. These are actions which demonstrate the contribution which both the people and the Government of Canada have made in this field.