

ment since it was the first time that a country outside Western Europe had admitted tuberculous refugees and had accepted full financial responsibility for them.

As an additional contribution to the success of World Refugee Year, the Government announced in September 1959 that the categories of eligible sponsors for handicapped refugees were being broadened so that private individuals, charitable and religious organizations, and municipal or provincial authorities could sponsor the admission to Canada of handicapped refugees. It was hoped that this step would increase the resettlement opportunities available for the hard-to-relocate refugee families in the European camps.

In addition to the special contributions to the World Refugee Year Programme, the Government increased its annual contribution to the regular budget of the High Commissioner for Refugees from \$200,000 in 1958 to \$290,000 in 1959. This was the second largest contribution to the High Commissioner's 1959 regular budget. At a pledging conference held in New York on December 10, 1959 the Government also pledged \$290,000 to the 1960 regular budget of the High Commissioner. The Government also indicated its support for the efforts of the Canadian Committee for World Refugee Year, a private group sponsored by more than 40 national voluntary organizations which undertook to raise some \$1,500,000 from private contributions in Canada.

At the fourteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly which was held in the fall of 1959, three resolutions were adopted during the General Assembly's consideration of agenda item 33 "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees". The first resolution invited governments to devote on the occasion of World Refugee Year special attention to the problems of refugees coming within the mandate of the High Commissioner and authorized the High Commissioner to use his good offices in the transmission of contributions intended for refugees who did not come within the competence of the United Nations. The second resolution was concerned with refugees from Algeria in Tunisia and Morocco and recommended that the High Commissioner should continue his efforts on behalf of these refugees pending their return to their homes. The third resolution urged governments in the humanitarian spirit of World Refugee Year to continue to focus interest on the refugee problem, to make and encourage additional financial contributions for international assistance to refugees and to encourage additional opportunities for a permanent refugee solution. This resolution also requested the Secretary-General to continue to assist in the promotion of World Refugee Year.

The first resolution was adopted by 66 votes in favour (including Canada), none against, and 12 abstentions. The second resolution was carried by 74 votes in favour (including Canada), none against, and 3 abstentions. The third resolution, of which Canada was a co-sponsor, was adopted by 63 votes in favour (including Canada), 9 against, and 5 abstentions.

Social Questions

International Covenants on Human Rights

In 1954 the United Nations Commission on Human Rights completed preliminary texts of a draft Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and a draft Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The two Covenants were transmitted through ECOSOC to the General Assembly for final drafting and adoption and have been one of the main topics of discussion in the