

No. 53/41

NEGOTIATIONS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE  
FOR 1954

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Text of statement given on October 27, 1953, by  
Senator S.S. McKeen at the eighth session of the  
United Nations General Assembly

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Many delegations in speaking of the contributions which their governments hope to make to the 1954 expanded programme, have stressed the benefits which their own countries have derived from technical assistance and their belief that, by the further exchange of technical skills and know-how, extensive and enduring progress can be made towards prosperity and improved standards of living all over the world. The Canadian Government shares this belief. Canada has been, and still is, a country which depends greatly upon the export of primary products. But our recent and rapid industrial growth has been based upon technical developments and upon the exploration of improved industrial and agricultural techniques which we have pursued in our own country and which we are ready to share with others.

In accordance with our belief in the fundamental importance of the kind of work which is being done under the expanded programme of technical assistance, I am authorized to announce that if, in our view, the support given to the 1954 programme by the other contributors warrants such action, and if the total of the contributions is sufficient to make a reasonable and workable programme, on a sound economic basis, the Canadian Government, subject to parliamentary approval, is prepared to increase its contribution to the 1954 expanded programme of technical assistance from \$800,000, as it was in 1953, up to a maximum of one million five hundred thousand dollars (United States). I should further add that if the total of contributions falls below what we regard as reasonable, the Canadian contribution would be reduced accordingly.

It is our hope that when the pledging conference meets in two weeks time, the response from delegations will be such as to ensure the continuance at the maximum possible efficiency of what we regard as one of the most valuable contributions the United Nations has so far made to international economic co-operation and progress.

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