

on easier terms is required if the gap between the potential and the actual growth of the developing countries is to be narrowed.

This conclusion has not been challenged in any international form. It led us in Canada to undertake a far-reaching review of our aid policies, and as a result we are progressively expanding our aid programme and improving its terms. In summary, the World Bank Group is itself an effective channel of aid to developing countries; it acts as an adviser to both developed and developing countries on development and aid questions; and it acts as a co-ordinator of aid through its sponsorship of consultative groups. We all benefit from the way it performs these functions. If the World Bank Group is to discharge the responsibilities placed on it, it needs more financial resources.

Food and Agriculture Organization

When the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) was established at a conference in Quebec City in October 1945, it was intended that it should provide a centre for the exchange of information and opinion on agricultural development. However, it soon became apparent that this advisory function would be inadequate to meet the needs of many member states, and FAO is now an operational agency assisting countries in preparing development plans, helping in the execution of major projects, providing some backing for projects, and assisting member countries in obtaining finance. The Organization currently serves as the executing agency for a larger number of projects of the United Nations Development Programme than does any other participating UN agency—about 39 per cent of the total special fund programme. In addition, during 1966 the FAO administered technical assistance programmes for the UNDP to the value of \$13 million. Since 1945, FAO staff has grown from a mere handful to 4,800 persons. Nearly 2,000 FAO experts are in the field.

During 1966, member governments provided increased funds to FAO of more than 30 per cent over 1965. This increase was slightly over \$25 million. Canada ranks as the fifth largest contributor to FAO, and its contribution for 1966 totalled \$993,711 (U.S.). At the same time, UNDP funds available to FAO were increased. The provision of food aid was also expanded. During this period, some 31 Canadians joined FAO's staff and, in addition, Canada provided two soil experts to FAO for a six-month period, with Canada paying the salaries of these experts and costs of travel to Rome.

Canada is an active member of the UN/FAO World Food Programme (WFP)¹. This multilateral programme has as its objective the provision of food aid to meet emergency conditions, to improve the standard of food consumption, and to assist in economic development. Canada is the second largest contributor to the programme, having pledged \$30 million (Cdn) for

¹ See Page 28.