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CANADA'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS FAMILY OF ORGANIZATIONS

Canada's very significant contributions to the United Nations system of organizations, coupled with the Canadian tradition of prompt payment, is an accurate indication of this country's firm support for the UN system.

While some of the organizations and agencies, such as the Universal Postal Union (UPU), go as far back as the late nineteenth century, the majority have been created since 1945. Their main purpose is to foster a peaceful international environment through the provision of facilities for the implementation of international co-operation in almost all fields of human endeavour.

Canada's contributions to the United Nations fall into three broad categories: (a) annual assessments to finance appropriations of the organization under its regular budget; (b) peacekeeping contributions; and (c) voluntary contributions to the activities of a variety of multilateral economic, social and humanitarian programs. The assessed and voluntary payments made by Canada to the United Nations since its inception in 1945 total approximately \$421.8 million.

The following pages provide a detailed survey of the nature and extent of Canada's contributions to the UN system. It is of interest to note that, quite apart from the annual contributions summarized in Appendix B, Canada also contributes to several special programs (see Appendix A). To set Canadian contributions in perspective, Appendix C outlines the contributions of Canada and 11 other selected countries to five voluntary programs.

Regular budget The United Nations regular budget has hitherto been presented and approved on an annual basis. This practice is to change next year, when a budget for the 1974-75 biennium will be introduced.

While 1973 is distinguished as the last year of the implementation of an annual budget, it is also noted as a year of austerity. The 1973 regular budget was \$224 million (U.S.), a mere 5.17 percent increase over the previous year, which reflected the UN policy of financial restraint in 1973. The actual assessment of \$229 million (U.S.) was apportioned among all members

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