

countries whose export earnings are declining because of adverse developments in commodity prices; and reaffirm the readiness of the Canadian Government to join with producing and consuming countries, under procedures which have been internationally agreed, to examine whether intergovernmental action is feasible or desirable to meet problems of particular commodities.

Advisory Services in Human Rights

14. The programme of advisory services in the field of human rights was established by the General Assembly at its tenth session. Under the programme fellowships or experts in the broad field of human rights may be provided at the request of governments and seminars may be organized on a regional basis. The programme comprises a practical approach to current human rights problems and one through which countries, such as Canada, which for constitutional reasons will have difficulty in adhering to international covenants on human rights, may still participate actively in the United Nations activities and efforts to promote respect for human rights throughout the world.

15. The success of the programme in its initial two years has been such as to lead the Secretary-General to request an increase in the funds available for it. The Delegation might support a reasonable increase in its present budget of \$55,000 in so far as it can be shown that the extra funds can be usefully expended.

36.

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*Note du sous-secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
pour le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures²⁹*

*Memorandum from Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Secretary of State for External Affairs²⁹*

CONFIDENTIAL

[Ottawa], September 10, 1958

GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE 26TH SESSION OF
THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

I think that you will be interested in the attached general assessment of the work of the Economic and Social Council at its recent 26th session which was prepared by the Chairman of the Canadian Delegation, Mr. Wallace B. Nesbitt, M.P. The assessment is being reproduced as a circular document for transmission to all our missions abroad.

You will see that Mr. Nesbitt characterizes the session as a constructive one with reference in particular to its work on the economic side (paragraphs 3-6 and 9). Of special importance were the approval of the report of the Special Fund's Preparatory Committee, the decision to reconstitute and change the terms of reference of the Commission on International Commodity Trade (to which Canada was re-elected for a three-year term) and discussions of commodity problems. It is encouraging to read the progress which the Council achieved in the coordination field.

The practice initiated by the Netherlands Delegation (paragraph 11) of holding meetings of certain heads of delegations to promote Western unity on the Council is one which I suggest should be cautiously considered if, in the future, we are called upon to take a

²⁹ Note marginale :/Marginal note:
Seen by the Minister