

Nations apply to this particular question. This resolution is designed to promote the co-operation, both joint and separate, for the promotion of the economic development of the under-developed countries which is described in Article 56.

The Secretary-General is asked to make a preliminary factual survey of international economic assistance. This is to be mainly a statistical survey. The Secretary-General is asked, however, in the light of his experience with this preliminary survey, to report on the most suitable methods for carrying out such surveys. We have left it to the Secretary-General to collect the necessary data. The Secretary-General would, therefore, be expected to prepare a statement of the grants, the loans, the technical assistance; in short, the assistance which could be appropriately classified as economic aid for this purpose. In making this survey he is instructed to use the readily available governmental and intergovernmental information, and to concentrate on the three-year period ending December 31, 1956. We would also expect that, while the Secretary-General would not list individual projects in his report, he would give us some indication of the type as well as the amount of aid involved, and of the economic sectors in which this aid was used. The Secretary-General is to submit this survey to the 24th Session of ECOSOC. This does not give the Secretariat very much time but past experience allows us to expect a comprehensive and useful document by that time. It would then be for the Economic and Social Council to consider what further action it should take.

The final paragraph calls upon member governments and specialized agencies to co-operate with the Secretary-General as may be necessary in implementing this resolution.

I trust all Delegations will appreciate the spirit in which the Canadian and Norwegian Delegations have brought this economic Registry idea forward. It is difficult to see how any suggestion which will make UN discussion of assistance to under-developed regions more profitable could fail to obtain the unanimous support of this Committee.

My Delegation regards the discussions of the economic development of the under-developed countries as the most important subject before the Second Committee. I join with others in hoping that the United Nations can contribute to the solution of the immense tasks before the less-fortunate areas of the world which have fired the imaginations of all the peoples engaged in the common tasks of raising living standards and promoting stability and peace.