

the aims we should be pursuing. It is therefore a matter of implementing the Assembly's decision. I believe it would be appropriate for me to mention at this point the various initiatives which must, by all means, be co-ordinated by the High Commissioner's Office and I should like here to express the profound admiration of my government and of the Canadian people for the work done by the authorities and the people of Austria since that country was suddenly faced with an exodus from a neighbouring country which is daily taking greater proportions. We appreciate fully the sacrifices which this devotion to duty imposes on the people of Austria and we hope that these efforts will continue and that the authorities of the Austrian Republic will go on doing everything in their power to come to the aid of their Hungarian brothers. Nor has the International Red Cross, together with the national societies of the Red Cross, hesitated to come forth and assist the refugees. In order to facilitate the work of the Canadian Red Cross, the Canadian Government has already pledged to it \$100,000. Indeed, the Red Cross has always received and will continue to receive the encouragement which it deserves from the Government and the people of Canada.

There are also in my country a number of non-governmental organizations who are at the moment endeavouring to alleviate the miseries of those who could no longer bear to live behind the Iron Curtain. I should like to mention in particular the efforts made by the United Nations Association of Canada and by the various groups of Canadians of Hungarian origin who are doing all they can to assist those whom they left behind when they came to their country of adoption.

I should like to emphasize that the Canadian Government is of the opinion that the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, because of its past experience in this field and because of its highly qualified personnel, is the organization which is best suited to answer the appeals of the refugees with the required rapidity and the least possible amount of administrative formalities. As you know, Canada has already undertaken to deposit with the High Commissioner's Office for the benefit of the Hungarian refugees the sum of \$100,000. Furthermore, my government has decided to give priority of entry to those of the refugees who would like to come to Canada. I might point out that yesterday, in a statement in the Canadian House of Commons, our Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Louis S. St. Laurent, recalled that two grants of one hundred thousand dollars each had already been made to the Canadian Red Cross and to the High Commissioner for Refugees respectively. The Prime Minister also announced that the Government of Canada had decided to make the total sum of one million dollars available for the relief of those who have suffered from the recent events in Hungary. In other words, this amount exceeds by \$800,000 the monies previously pledged.

Mr. Chairman, there remains for me to add that my delegation has just learned that the Canadian immigration authorities have decided to provide additional and faster means of transportation from Europe to Canada for Hungarian refugees. Furthermore, it has been decided that those refugees who proceed immediately from Austria to other European countries would not thereby prejudice their chances of entering Canada at a latter date. We believe that this last measure will contribute in easing the very serious problem of lodging the refugees on Austrian territory. The Canadian Minister of Citizenship and Immigration has just announced that the Canadian Government has chartered all