

The statement was given by Mr. John Small, Canadian Delegate to the Second Committee November 11, 1977.

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This debate provides an opportunity to establish an annual benchmark reflecting both financial and policy developments with respect to U.N. Operational Activities for Development. Happily, this year has seen a strengthening of both of these aspects of most of the programs and funds considered under this item. The results of the recent Pledging Conferences for UNDP and UNICEF indicated that considerable, if not yet completely sufficient, resources will be available for 1978.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

During 1977, the UNDP has undergone an important period of appraisal, evaluation, and strengthening. The financial crisis of 1975, which influenced last year's debate, has been overcome and corrective measures are being undertaken to remove many of the underlying causes of that crisis. New policy guidelines for the future role and activities of the UNDP were requested by the Administrator and the resolution adopted at the 24th Governing Council is a step in this direction. Equally important, the basic tenets of the program, the consensus of 1970 and the New Dimensions Decision of 1975, were re-confirmed. The ability of the UNDP Governing Council to adopt policies and procedures appropriate to changing circumstances without undermining the basic principles of the program was again demonstrated. These are positive developments as the UNDP commences implementation of the 2nd year of this Country Program cycle.

The 1978 Pledging Conference for the UNDP showed that a significant number of donor countries remain committed to the 14 percent target growth rate for the current Country Program cycle. By adhering to these guidelines, many of the difficulties associated with single year pledging are eliminated. Canada fulfilled its commitment with a contribution of C\$39 million, or a 14.7 percent increase over our 1977 contribution. The 1978 resources of the UNDP estimated at over US\$569 million will contribute significantly to world requirements for technical assistance. These financial resources show in clear and real terms, the confidence that governments, including my own, have in Mr. Bradford Morse as Administrator of the UNDP.

The management of the financial resources of the UNDP appears to us to be an area which needs our attention. The problem of finding a productive use for non-convertible currencies, which have accumulated since 1971 remains, in spite of the substantial volume of goods and services which are purchased in countries with such currencies. Responsible participation in the multi-national aspects of the program requires that resources be given in a form which can be completely utilized in the attainment of the program's