

Mr. Chairman , that the consolidation of the two programmes, managed so competently by Mr. Owen and Mr. Hoffman, constitutes the best guarantee of the effective use of the funds contributed and of the efficient administration of these programmes.

"In conclusion, I should like to express my Government's belief that the creation of this consolidated programme will enhance the influence and prestige of the United Nations as a whole."

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The Special Fund's pre-investment technical assistance programme is designed (a) to bring to light the development possibilities of natural resources in developing countries; (b) to train local people in the knowledge and skills required to make those resources productive; and (c) to strengthen institutions in those countries in the organization and management of important development activities. The Special Fund began operation in 1959 and Canada, which played a leading part in its establishment, has been a member of the Fund's Governing Council since its inception. The Fund has received strong support from the developed, as well as the developing countries. To date, the Fund has approved 522 projects in 130 countries at a total cost of \$1,149 million of which \$673 million is being provided by the developing countries themselves.

Canada's annual contribution to the Special Fund for 1965 was \$5 million, making it the fifth largest contributor.

The Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) is designed to provide experts, training facilities and technical knowledge to the developing countries. In 1964 alone, over 2,500 experts were sent to assist 130 countries and territories and more than 3,000 fellowships were granted to the nationals of 150 countries and territories. EPTA's work usefully complements Canadian bilateral aid programmes, such as that carried out under the Colombo Plan. EPTA has received increasing support over the years from members of the United Nations and is considered as one of its most effective activities.

Canada has consistently been one of the leading supporters of the programme. Canada contributed \$2,300,000 to EPTA in 1965.