

No one would say that enough is yet being done along these lines to satisfy the conscience of our common human brotherhood or to meet the appalling need that has been revealed through the United Nations Report on the World Social Situation, and through the studies of UNESCO, ILO, WHO, FAO and other groups. We can, however, agree that now, for the first time, we are establishing new and powerful channels for international collaboration and mutual aid in the fields of health, education and social welfare to help narrow the great gaps and distances that divide and separate the various areas of the world.

But, of course, it is not enough in this interdependent world society in which we live to consider only the obligations of the more fortunate peoples to their less-privileged brothers. The obligations of self-help, and of establishing social and economic justice, rest upon these peoples and nations for whose benefit these new programmes of technical assistance and co-operative action have been established.

I am convinced that the success of the efforts we are now making through mutual aid and international co-operation to assist the economic development of the less materially advanced peoples will not primarily depend, in any sound analysis, on how much the more favoured nations can provide to help them. It will depend far more on two factors which, in the final result, are within the control of the peoples of the underdeveloped countries themselves. No amount of help from the outside can really achieve effective results unless the recipient peoples and nations are first prepared to put forth a supreme and sustained effort to do everything within their power to help themselves. This means the fullest possible utilization, for the common good of all the people in the country, of all their own resources and skills, including administrative ability. Secondly, there must be intelligent social utilization, domestically through the most enlightened means available, of the additional help that comes from the outside.

Without a solid and enduring foundation of self-help, the fine superstructure of cooperative action and technical assistance that is now building through the United Nations will stand on shifting sands.

Recognition of the importance of a full measure of self-help, as well as co-operative action, to the achievement of success in our total effort towards social progress is, of course, a long-established axiom of our individual family and community life. In all of our countries, social welfare systems and educational programmes have been established to assist the individual and his family in their efforts to create and maintain the kind of life in which each person can find the fullest opportunity for self-development and self-expression.

Responsible social welfare programmes have never been designed to supplant the effort which must be put forward first of all by the individual himself, his family and his immediate community. No social welfare system could survive in any nation if it had as its end result the destruction or serious diminution of individual initiative and incentive. Our social