

An intergovernmental committee of 20 members with an appropriate balanced composition is to be elected, 10 members by ECOSOC and 10 members by the FAO.

Subject to the approval of the FAO Council and ECOSOC, it will be the task of the Intergovernmental Committee to draw up the conditions and procedures for the establishment and operation of the programme. In the administration of the programme, attention is to be paid to establishing adequate and orderly procedures on a world basis for meeting emergency food needs and emergencies inherent in chronic malnutrition, as well as to assisting in preschool and school feeding and implementing pilot projects with the multilateral use of food as an aid to economic and social development. The Committee is also charged with ensuring that adequate protection is given to commercial interests generally and to producers in developing countries.

The remainder of the paragraphs in Part I of the resolution are, generally speaking, provisions required to make the programme operational on the part of the United Nations. These include directions to the Intergovernmental Committee which are intended to give it the widest measure of discretion and freedom to develop the conditions and procedures on which the proposed programme should be established and operated, subject, of course, to the final approval of ECOSOC and FAO Council.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 specifically approve the establishment of the Intergovernmental Committee and request ECOSOC to elect 10 members thereto, taking into account the need for balanced representation. Paragraph 2 also approves the establishment of a joint UN/FAO administrative unit.

Paragraph 4 provides for a review of the composition of the Intergovernmental Committee before January 1, 1963. Paragraph 6 calls for a review by ECOSOC at its thirty-third session of the proposed procedures and arrangements. Paragraph 7 requests the Committee to report to ECOSOC and FAO Council. Paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 provide for setting up a pledging conference and urge early attainment of the financial objectives of the programme. Paragraphs 5 and 11 provide broad directions to the Intergovernmental Committee. Paragraph 12 recommends that the resident representatives be kept informed on the activities of the Programme and Paragraph 13 provides for a general review of the Programme not later than the eighteenth General Assembly.

Part II of the resolution recognizes that the World Food Programme constitutes a significant but modest step towards the objectives outlined in General Assembly Resolution 1496 (XV) and holds out the possibility that in the future, on review by all concerned, broader objectives in the use of food may be considered.

Mr. Chairman, the other point I wish to emphasize is that, as the Canadian Delegation stressed at the FAO Conference, the Canadian Government does not regard the operations of the proposed World Food Programme as a surplus disposal activity. I think this must be said because I should not wish to leave any doubt in the minds of the members of this Committee about this point. While it is true, of course, that we expect foodstuffs, some of which may be surplus, to play a very large role in the Programme, I would stress that we have no thought that countries which do not have surplus food supplies should be expected to contribute financially or in any other way to a programme to help the surplus capacity countries out of difficulties they may now or in the future experience. I hope the Committee will forgive me labouring that point, but it is a fact that my Government sincerely hopes that this Programme, starting modestly as it is bound to, will in