

The next three operative paragraphs, numbers 2 to 4, contain the recommendations for additional measures on the part of governments about which I have spoken. I should like to comment on the measures singled out for attention in further detail.

Operative paragraph 2 places emphasis on promptness of response by member countries when they are approached by a United Nations agency for expert personnel as a consequence of a request made by another member country. I think it will be generally agreed that lengthy delays in recruitment can have seriously detrimental effects on the development of any technical assistance programme. There are many situations, indeed, where a rapid response is vital--in cases of natural disaster, for example, such as we have seen recently at Agadir or in Chile, or in other situations, which many member governments will have experienced where no general emergency exists but where the need for expert assistance for a specific task becomes urgent. In such cases, when the requesting government signifies that particular urgency attaches to its request, every effort should be made to overcome the all too prevalent obstacles to rapid recruitment.

Operative paragraphs 3 and 4 recommend for the consideration of the governments concerned certain devices which could, in our view, contribute to this end. The first of these is the establishment in national capitals of rosters of qualified personnel available for assignment by the United Nations and its related agencies to advisory or operational posts, especially when requesting governments find themselves in the position of requiring experts quickly.

(This proposal was referred to by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable John G. Diefenbaker, in his address to the General Assembly on September 26. At that time, speaking of the needs which have arisen in distress and disaster areas in different parts of the world, Mr. Diefenbaker said, and I quote: "National action of a standby nature is obviously desirable...We suggest that experts, in an 'experts bank', if you will, might be recruited for medicine, public health, sanitation, public welfare, distribution of supplies, communications, transportation.. To set up an 'experts bank' would make for administrative stability instead of having to rely on a crash recruiting campaign for