

WORLD TRADE AND WORLD PEACE

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"...All of us recognize the importance of external financial and technical assistance to developing countries. It is indeed heartening to note the steady increase in the flow of resources to these countries during the decade of the 1950's and particularly during the past few years. Equally important is the growing awareness that developing countries require not only external financial assistance but also the opportunity to expand and develop their trade, as well as self-help measures of various kinds. It is in relation to the other factors in the development process that the efficacy of external financial and technical assistance must be viewed.

"In referring to United Nations programmes of technical co-operation, we believe the Technical Assistance Committee and ECOSOC should be warmly commended for giving practical effect to the importance of evaluation of assistance provided to developing countries by adopting this past summer Resolution 908(XXXIV). This resolution opens the way to a better and more effective use of the funds available for United Nations technical co-operation programmes, and is fully in accord with the objectives of the Development Decade.

WORLD FOOD PLAN

"We have recently had an example of the ability of the United Nations to expand its activities to meet pressing needs. I am referring, of course, to the coming into being of the World Food Programme. My Government is deeply gratified at the success of the pledging conference for this new programme held a few weeks ago. At that conference, 31 governments pledged approximately \$86 million and a further nine governments announced their intention to make pledges at a later date. We hope additional pledges will be forthcoming so that the \$100-million target can be attained. As the Secretary-General remarked at the Conference, 'the fact that the United Nations is striking out along such new paths is evidence of its continuing vitality and its capacity to deal with changing situations'. My Government was glad to have been able to play from the start an active part in the establishment of this important and promising programme, and has pledged \$5 million to it.

UN DEVELOPMENT DECADE

"In conclusion, I should like to emphasize that all of our discussions and decisions in this Committee must be viewed against the background of the Secretary-General's outstanding report on the United Nations Development Decade. The concept of the Development Decade dramatizes the necessity of raising living standards in developing countries through the achievement of self-sustaining economic growth. The Secretary-General's report points to specific areas of need and outlines proposals for action to meet those needs. The main economic objective of the Decade, as stated in Resolution 1710 (XVI), is to create conditions in which national incomes of all or, at the very least, the great majority, of developing countries not only will be increasing by 5 per cent yearly by 1970, but will also continue to expand at this annual rate thereafter. We endorse the Secretary-General's belief that this objective is within our reach 'given a greater willingness among both developing and advanced countries to make the efforts and sacrifices required'.

"...If I were asked to summarize everything I have just said in one sentence, I think it would be this: However stark the problems of economic development may seem, there are no equally stark or simple solutions. All of us recognize this, but all of us - confronted by new and bewildering situations or thwarted by events over which we seem to have little or no control - all of us at some time or another give way to a very human impulse to look for the one simple solution which will eliminate our problems at one stroke and usher in the millenium. Whether we are talking of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development or the United Nations Decade of Development, compensatory financing or commodity agreements, the Special Fund or bilateral assistance programmes, there is no one technique which will ensure self-sustained economic growth. We have before us three documents which bear this very much in mind - the report of ECOSOC, the Secretary-General's report on the Development Decade and the Declaration adopted this summer in Cairo. All three documents recognize that many, many techniques must be used, and all three recognize paramount need to impose priorities. It is at this point, with this understanding that we should begin our deliberations...."

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