

NATIONAL ACTION

"I would not wish to create the impression that we consider this the only type of measure which could be taken by governments seeking to facilitate rapid recruitment, either for immediate requirements or for requirements which may not be unusually urgent. The use of national technical assistance committees, which are referred to in Operative Paragraph 3, may be the most useful means to this end in some countries. As members of this Committee know, national committees, composed of representatives of governments, universities, trade union, industrial and professional bodies, have proved notably successful in a number of countries whose constitutional and administrative structure lends itself to this approach. The wide range of contacts and facilities which these committees have built up have been extremely valuable in locating and recruiting high quality personnel for technical assistance assignments. Other effective means may also be evolved and we hope that as the pressures on available resources increase measures appropriate in different countries will be devised.

CHALLENGE AND RESPONSE

"I come now to Operative Paragraph 4, which deals with possible means of encouraging personnel to accept technical assistance assignments. The report of the ECOSOC Committee on Programme Appraisals draws attention to the importance of bringing the value of service with international organizations to the attention of those governmental and other bodies from which potential technical assistance personnel are mainly drawn. It is regrettably true that even now the extent of the requirements of less-developed countries is not always widely known or appreciated. Similarly, the value to the expert himself of service in new surroundings is not always grasped. The fresh challenges and unfamiliar problems which confront him, and above all the working out of their solutions in co-operation with his colleagues in the country where he serves may often be of the greatest value to him and his own country when he returns home.

"We feel...that in the interest of the future success of the United Nations technical assistance programmes it would be desirable that governments bring the value of service under those programmes to the attention of those who might undertake such service. I emphasize, however, that this suggestion is subject to an important qualification which is embodied in the first line of Operative Paragraph 4 in the phrase, 'subject to their own requirements'. This has been inserted in order to protect the interests of those developing countries--of which there are a considerable number--who have supplied experts for United Nations assignments and will undoubtedly do so more and more in the future. These countries themselves, of course, have

very great need for experts and although their spirit of co-operation and their sense of shared responsibility for economic development everywhere in the world impels them to make some experts available to other countries in need of them, they cannot, of course, spare experts in great numbers. Nobody, I think, would deny that they are fully justified in ensuring that their own requirements should be safeguarded.

CAREER PROTECTION

"Finally...I come to the measures, which might be described as 'career protection' advanced in the second half of Operative Paragraph 4. It has been our experience in Canada, and we believe the experience in many other countries, that one of the most important single obstacles to rapid recruiting is the uncertainty about their own future that potential candidates for technical assistance assignments may feel if they interrupt their careers for a limited period of time to serve elsewhere in the world. We think this is a thoroughly understandable concern...and I may say that the Government of Canada, and, I believe, other governments, are now engaged in developing just such career-protection procedures as the resolution suggests. We believe that such measures will have a salutary effect on recruiting and that general adoption of measures designed to this end would be a useful contribution to the success of the United Nations technical assistance programmes...."

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CANADA AND THE OUTLOOK FOR WORLD TRADE

(Continued from P. 3)

Western Europe. The Government is sparing no effort to safeguard Canada's trade interests and to ensure that Canadian exports obtain fair and reasonable access to these areas. Canadian exporters must prepare for an all-out effort to sell their products if they are to profit from the vast possibilities of these markets.

"What are the possibilities of an eventual merging of 'The Six' and 'The Seven'? It might involve some further loss of advantage for Canada's exports to Great Britain and her EFTA partners. Canadian officials are participating in the efforts being made by the Paris Committee on Trade Problems, which was set up earlier this year to consider practical short-term measures for mitigating the effects of the 'Six-Seven' split. At the same time, Canada is joined with the United States and eighteen members of the OEEC (which include members of both 'The Six' and 'The Seven') in preparing for the establishment of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Through this Organization, Western nations will be brought into close and regular consultation on matters of mutual economic interest.