

contributors to UNICEF; the total of Canada's past contributions amounts to \$9,375,000. Because of the substantial increase in the number and amount of contributions in recent years, and bearing in mind the effectiveness of UNICEF programmes, the Canadian Government announced at the tenth session of the Assembly that it intended to increase, subject to Parliamentary approval, Canada's 1956 contribution from \$500,000 which was the amount given during each of the last five years, to \$650,000. Voluntary contributions to UNICEF from private sources in Canada amount to well over \$1.5 million since the inception of the Fund in 1946.

Assistance to Libya

At the eighth session of the General Assembly in December 1953 a resolution¹ was adopted requesting the Secretary-General to submit a report in 1955 on the question of assistance to Libya which became an independent state on December 24, 1951. This report was considered by the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee which heard also a statement by the Representative of the United Kingdom of Libya. The report described the technical assistance which had been provided by the United Nations and Specialized Agencies. Help had also been received directly from Egypt, France, Italy, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. Twenty-nine other governments indicated that, while sympathetic to the needs of Libya, they were not in a position to offer special assistance beyond the multilateral United Nations programmes.

A resolution jointly sponsored by Egypt, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen was unanimously adopted at the tenth session in 1955. It invited governments willing and able to do so to provide financial assistance to Libya through the appropriate channels of the United Nations in order to assist that country in its fundamental and urgent programmes of reconstruction and economic and social development. It also recommended that if and when further means became available for assisting the development of under-developed areas, consideration be given to the specific needs of Libya. The Secretary-General is to make a special report to the thirteenth session of the General Assembly in 1958 and bring this resolution again to the attention of members.

Establishment of a World Food Reserve

An item relating to the possible establishment of a world food reserve was placed on the agenda for the ninth session of the General Assembly at the request of the Government of Costa Rica. The explanatory memorandum² which accompanied the request touched briefly upon past consideration of the problems relating to world food supplies and suggested that the establishment of a "world food reserve" would, among other things, prevent any diminution of production, stimulate increased consumption, establish international food-stuff prices, promote exchanges of surpluses and meet emergency famine conditions. Following the discussion of the Costa Rican proposal the Assembly, with the support of the Canadian Delegation, passed a resolution expressing appreciation of the valuable work being done in related fields by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and requesting the Secretary-General to invite the FAO to prepare a factual and comprehensive report on this proposal for the information of the Economic and Social Council. It was recognized

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1953-54*, p. 59.

²The full text of the memorandum will be found in U.N. document A/2710, August 23, 1954.