

to ECOSOC 63 proposed a solution which we considered then was the only possible basis of compromise and consensus agreement. This proposal, or one like it, may well remain the only basis for compromise. We look forward to discussing approaches with all other delegations when our work programme permits us more effectively to turn our attention to what we trust will be a decisive effort to reach a conclusion on this matter.

Another question to which the Canadian delegation attaches particular attention is the Year of the Child, which was proclaimed by the General Assembly last year. This session calls for a simple and straight-forward resolution devised to ensure the continuing success of this endeavour whose value has been underlined by the excellent work of UNICEF thus far. The Year of the Child is a modest exercise in terms of expense. However, it will have very real public impact in all our countries in a way which can only support our greater awareness of national and world problems, and which will provide for further public involvement in the United Nations in general and the development process in particular.

We are particularly grateful that this significant session of the Second Committee will be under your firm guidance and that again we have a bureau whose members enjoy the great confidence and admiration of the Canadian delegation as I am sure they do of all other delegations. We think we can accomplish much between now and the end of December. We followed with great attention the address to this Committee on Thursday of Dr. Perez Guerrero. We share his view that the United Nations now has the opportunity to rise to a major challenge. It is in this direction that the Canadian delegation looks forward to joining with others in striving for the common goals of progress and visible achievement.

2. Operational Activities for Development

The annual debate in the Second Committee on Operational Activities for Development is concerned with several of the major substantive programs of the UN system in the field of development assistance. Canada is a major financial contributor and active supporter of these programs which include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

The Canadian statement referred to the significant resources pledged to the various programs covered by this item and called for the Administrator of the UNDP to continue to pay close attention to their effective utilization. Specific comments were directed towards the International Year of the Child, (UNICEF), the financial problems associated with non-convertible currencies, and a new Management Information System being implemented by UNDP with Canadian assistance.