

increasing world food security, through an improved early-warning system and a co-ordinated approach to stockholding, and to the continued need for food aid to deal with emergency situations and to alleviate nutritional deficiencies in developing countries particularly among vulnerable groups.

These are the main themes identified by the Secretary General of the Conference and by the Preparatory Committee of the World Food Conference during the three sessions it has held during the current year.

The main work of the Conference is likely to find expression in ten draft resolutions which are being submitted for the consideration of participating governments. What follows is a brief outline of the substance of each resolution:

1. Objectives for food production

The resolution urges all governments to accept the elimination of hunger and malnutrition as a serious international responsibility; it calls on the developing countries to accord priority to agriculture in their policies and to formulate food production objectives; it also appeals to donor countries and the international agencies to provide needed external support.

2. Priorities for Agricultural and Rural Development

The resolution stresses the need for far-reaching reforms and institutional changes in rural areas so as to involve the rural population more closely in rural development activity; it expresses the view that this should also be one of the criteria for making external assistance to rural development more effective.