

necessary consensus regarding the greatest chances for positive achievement at the second Conference.

Mr. Chairman, I wish now to return to a few of the specific topics before this Committee in which my delegation has a very special interest. I have already emphasized the urgent need for an immediate renewal of the upward thrust in flow of development assistance and for action to improve terms on which donor countries provide this assistance. In the General Debate in Plenary, the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada reviewed what Canada is now doing to give effect to that conviction. He recalled that over the last three years the total aid resources we have made available have increased at an average annual rate of \$50 million and pledged us to do our utmost to continue this expansion in order to achieve the one per cent target. Canada's Foreign Minister also mentioned steps which we have taken to provide for the closest consultation with recipient countries in aid planning, to diversify our assistance and to supplement our technical assistance and grant aid with soft loans, and to improve the terms on which those loans are made. In addition to our continuing efforts to expand and make more effective our bilateral aid programmes, Canada firmly supports the expansion of the resources available to soundly-conceived multilateral programmes. It therefore gave me special pleasure to be able to announce yesterday, subject to Parliamentary approval, an increase in our contribution to the United Nations Development Programme to the level of ten million United States dollars. The UNDP is playing an increasingly crucial role in the coordination and effective implementation of assistance activities in the United Nations family. It is our earnest hope that contributions by other members will permit early achievement of the \$200 million target of the UNDP set at the last session of the General Assembly. If, as we trust, the resources for capital investment through other agencies are to be increased in the near future, the need for more technical and pre-investment assistance through the UNDP is especially pressing.

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Canada welcomed as an important step/the promotion of multilateral co-operation on a regional basis the entry into force last month of the agreement establishing the Asian Development Bank. Canada's subscription to this important new institution amounts to \$25 million. Another multilateral instrument to which my country attaches great importance is the International Development Association. Canada will be prepared to join with others in responding sympathetically to the current requirement for replenishing IDA resources at a higher level.

The second specific subject on the Committee's agenda which I would like to emphasize is the food problem.