

The report of ECOSOC indicates clearly the expansion of the geographical area receiving aid and the number of children benefitting from it. But in our view one of the most encouraging aspects of UNICEF's work is the number of projects which are being turned over to the Governments of recipient countries. We had always hoped that, after providing the initial stimulus to a project, UNICEF would be able to step aside and leave the government concerned to carry on unassisted. This is one of the main purposes of the whole undertaking and we are gratified by the number of UNICEF projects which are becoming an integral part of the programmes of the governments of recipient countries.

Another encouraging development in our opinion is the increase both in the number of contributing countries and in the size of their contributions to the Fund. With regard to the number of contributing countries, my Delegation has noted with regret that while voluntary contributions have been received this year from a great many non-self governing territories there are still a number of self-governing territories - all members of the United Nations - which have not yet found it possible to contribute to the Fund.

As regards the increase in the size of contributions from the regular contributors, we are fully conscious of the fact that the reduction in the rate contribution of the United States Government requires even greater efforts on the part of other governments if there is to be any hope of reaching the target of \$20 million per annum for the Fund. In this connection, my Delegation was particularly gratified to hear the delegate of Colombia say that her Government had decided to make a very substantial increase in its contribution to UNICEF next year. We wish to express our appreciation to the Colombian Government for this practical and generous demonstration of their faith in the work of UNICEF.

As one of the main supporters of the Fund since its inception, the Canadian Government favours continuation of UNICEF's activities at the highest possible level. To date the Government has contributed over \$9 million to the Fund, and contributions from private sources amount to approximately one and a half million dollars. Having considered recently UNICEF's current financial position and its future requirements, the Government has decided to increase its contribution for next year. In this connection I have been authorized to announce at this time that, subject to Parliament approving the necessary appropriation, the Canadian Government will contribute to UNICEF for 1956 the sum of 650,000 Canadian dollars - which is an increase of \$150,000 over its contribution for this year.

In conclusion, it is our hope that other governments will find it possible to give increased support to UNICEF next year. If I might be allowed to express a personal wish in this forum, it would be that all United Nations undertakings in which the Economic and Social Council is interested might have the universal and practical effectiveness of the United Nations Children's Fund.