

The Government and particularly the Canadian International Development Agency have long recognized the importance of the non-governmental organizations in meeting our aid objectives. A non-governmental organization division was created within the Canadian International Development Agency in 1968, to provide additional support for the contributions of Canadian voluntary associations. Since that time funds allocated to private organizations have been increased by 300%, that is to say from 4.1 million dollars to 16.5 million dollars. Over the same period the CIDA budget increased by 70%.

Nevertheless, the total Canadian external budget has been growing at an annual rate of 15 to 16% and aid appropriations have reached a very significant figure. From a modest post-war beginning our total aid appropriations have reached more than half a billion dollars a year. This amount will grow as our Gross National Product increases.

This is a substantial sum for the Canadian tax payers to provide - and to sustain a programme of this magnitude the support of the Canadian public is essential. Non-governmental organizations play a very important role in the creation of a wider public awareness and sense of dedication to the objectives of development assistance.

I have said something about the funds allocated through CIDA for non-governmental organizations. How is the rest of the money used? About \$331 million - two-thirds of the total was allocated last year for country to country or bilateral assistance. \$99 million was used as grants, mainly for technical assistance such as the provision of Canadian teachers and advisers, or the training of overseas students in Canada. \$142 million was allocated for long-term development loans, usually on an interest-free basis to make goods and services available to developing countries.

\$90 million was spent for shipments of food. The emergency provision of food aid is often necessary to relieve famine and also to relieve recipient countries from the need to spend scarce foreign exchange on imports of food. Most recently \$2.5 million of Canadian food aid was allocated to countries bordering on the Sahara desert who are suffering a severe drought. Food aid is, however, a temporary expedient to help a community through a particularly difficult crisis. It is only provided with great discretion because when food aid is not directly required to meet shortages it can depress agricultural prices and discourage investment and expansion in the agricultural sectors of developing economies.

Another large portion - \$134 million was spent to provide multilateral assistance. Our contribution to multilateral organizations includes grants, loans or advances to the World Bank, several regional development banks and a variety of U.N. specialized agencies.

One of the more innovative efforts in which Canada has had a part in applying technology to the problems of the developing countries has been the establishment in Ottawa in 1970 of the International Development Research Centre, an avowedly international institution financed by the Canadian Government. The objective of the IDRC is to assist the developing regions to