

Last week, a new programme, to be known as "The Special Commonwealth African Aid Programme", was publicly launched. For this purpose Canada will, subject to Parliamentary sanction, make a contribution of \$10,500,000 over three years towards the development of African countries within the Commonwealth, including some of the dependent territories.

While the greater part of this bilateral programme will be in the form of technical assistance and aids in education, some assistance in the field of capital investment is not precluded.

We regard bilateral assistance within the Commonwealth association as complementary to the United Nations programme in Africa, and we will take every means to ensure that bilateral aid is closely co-ordinated with the United Nations programmes.

Last year Canada doubled its subscription to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in line with the general increase forthcoming from all members, and added a further \$100,000,000.

This year we are making financial provision for our contribution to the International Development Association -- a contribution which is related to our enlarged contribution to the International Bank.

Canada believes that the United Nations Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance are performing a vital task in an effective manner. We will, therefore, be increasing our contributions to these two programmes and the specific amounts will be announced in due course. The Canadian Delegation will also be ready to support a reasonable expansion in the regular programmes of technical assistance which are administered under the authority of the Secretary-General.

One of these -- the OPEX programme -- has proved its effectiveness in providing much needed assistance to new countries in developing their administrative services. Canada is convinced that the OPEX experiment is worthy of the Assembly's support on a permanent and expanded basis.

Canada has been considering a complementary proposal whereby