

countries in establishing the infrastructure needed to ensure the fullest possible protection of human rights. In this age of scarce resources, each component of each project in the Advisory Services Programme should be carefully assessed in terms of its contribution to this ultimate goal.

Mr. Chairman, we consider that the Secretary-General has a special role to play in drawing to the attention of member states the creation of the Voluntary Fund and the type of projects which could qualify for support. Efforts have already been made in this direction. What is perhaps required at the present time is a more systematic canvassing of the possibilities which are available under the Fund. The addendum to the Secretary-General's Report provides a very instructive sampling of the possibilities identified by some countries and we hope that it may be possible to implement some of these ideas in the near future. I have already mentioned the deliberations of human rights monitoring organs as one source of useful project proposals. The Centre might stimulate further ideas by circulating a brochure on the Fund, or by holding consultations with governments which indicate a general interest in the Programme. Consideration might also be given to using the good offices of other UN agencies to distribute information on the Fund, and to inviting countries, in the context of bilateral development assistance programmes, to bear in mind the possibilities offered by the Fund. It is, for instance, our hope that Canada's International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development -- the establishment of which was recently announced by the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs -- will be in a position to collaborate closely with the Centre for Human Rights in this connection. To summarize, with the funding now in place, the essential task is to identify and execute some successful projects to demonstrate the efficacy of this new mechanism and thus secure the future of the Fund.

Before closing, Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a brief word regarding the relationship between the Commission's debate on human rights violations under Item 12 on the one hand and the Advisory Services Programme on the other. Clearly, the ultimate objective of our deliberations under Item 12 is to contribute to a process of amelioration of difficult human rights situations. It is consequently natural to expect that the Advisory Services Programme may have a role to play, as one of the means at the Commission's disposal to achieve this end,