

and technical assistance. It has some notable achievements to its credit, including the recent creation of the United Nations Special Fund. In the past year, Canada was the largest per capita contributor to the Special Fund and the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

More recently there have been discussions concerning the proposed new International Development Association. This Association, in the form in which it is envisaged at present, would have an initial capitalization of \$1 billion, of which Canada's share would be about \$38 million. Although some aspects of it still have to be worked out, this Association could give a strong impetus to the economic development of less-developed countries.

One of the oldest established and, I would venture to say, one of the best assistance programmes in existence is the Colombo Plan. This programme was originally established to further co-operative economic development within the Commonwealth in South and Southeast Asia, and it has been an outstanding success, both as a development programme and as an example of Commonwealth co-operation.

Since 1951 Canada has contributed close to \$300 million under the Colombo Plan; we have, for example, joined with India in building an atomic reactor, located near Bombay. We have sent engineers and equipment to Pakistan for the construction of the Warsak Dam, aerial survey teams to Malaya, India and Pakistan, and fisheries experts and equipment to Ceylon.

As you know, I have just returned from New York, where I am attending the current session of the United Nations General Assembly. One of the things which has particularly impressed me has been the tremendous fund of good-will towards Canada which exists among the countries of Africa and Asia, and Canada's participation in the Colombo Plan has done a great deal to bring about this result.

As one means of continuing to develop our close relations with these countries, we expect to open a new diplomatic mission in Nigeria next year; in the recent past we have also opened offices in Ghana and Malaya. These countries look to us for friendly co-operation as they take their place in the international community, and it is our duty - and very much in our best interests - to provide such help as we can. I would urge you as Canadian exporters to take advantage of the good-will which exists towards us in these parts of the world. I am sure that there are opportunities now to get in at the beginning in establishing growing trade relations with these newly developing countries.