

subjects. Its activities include the encouragement of agricultural education, improved administration, conservation, marketing and nutrition. During 1964, in addition to increasing its work in these fields, the FAO expanded its activities in connection with United Nations programmes of economic assistance, particularly the Special Fund, on whose behalf the Organization undertook 169 projects costing approximately \$300 million. An agreement was also concluded during the year with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to facilitate the flow of investment funds into agriculture. In addition the FAO provided direct assistance to developing countries in such fields as the control of animal diseases, wildlife management, conservation and desert locust control.

At its meeting in October 1964, the FAO Council reviewed the progress of the "Freedom-from-Hunger" Campaign and noted that some \$221 million has been committed to various projects in participating countries. Of this total, funds channelled through FAO amounted to \$18.6 million. The Council also considered the second annual report of the Inter-governmental Committee of the World Food Programme, which is administered by FAO in conjunction with the United Nations. About 135 projects of various types have been undertaken, based on the provision of food aid. At the end of 1964, pledges amounted to the equivalent of \$92 million, including about \$33 million in cash, against the target of \$100 million. In order to ensure the success of the programme, particularly as regards the purchase of food, those member countries that had not yet made or fulfilled their pledges were urged to do so, preferably on a cash basis. At its October meeting, the Council recognized that the new trade and development institutions in the United Nations, arising out of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, would have important implications for the future work of the FAO, and particularly for the Committee on Commodity Problems. Although it would take some time before these implications would be fully known, it was clear that, in future, greater emphasis would be placed on problems of economic and social development.

The FAO Committee on Commodity Problems reported that the rise in international commodity prices, which began in 1963, reached its peak early in 1964 and that a decline had since set in. The rise in prices and the related expansion in trade tended to benefit exporting countries in temperate zones more than developing countries. The Committee has currently under consideration proposals for possible international action to stabilize prices for tea, cocoa and fats and oils, in line with the recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.