

omic Development (SUNFED) which would provide grants and long-term low interest loans was first considered at the sixth session of the General Assembly in 1951-52<sup>1</sup>. ECOSOC, which was asked to consider this question, recommended that a committee of nine experts be appointed to study the proposal. The eighth session of the General Assembly, after considering this expert committee's report, passed a resolution, which Canada supported, declaring that governments stood ready when sufficient progress had been made in internationally supervised world-wide disarmament to ask their peoples to devote a proportion of the savings to an international economic development fund within the framework of the United Nations<sup>2</sup>. A second resolution invited comments from member governments on the report of the nine experts, and appointed the former president of ECOSOC, Mr. Raymond Scheyven of Belgium, to collate these comments and report to ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

The Canadian reply to this United Nations resolution inviting comments from member countries, reiterated the Government's desire to support measures for helping the under-developed countries to strengthen their economies, questioned whether some of the proposals put forward were likely to be as effective as bilateral arrangements, and concluded by saying that it would be practical and worth while for a fund to be set up only when the countries mainly concerned were prepared to make resources available additional to those already being channelled to the under-developed countries.

During the discussion of Mr. Scheyven's report at the ninth session of the General Assembly in 1954, the Canadian Representative said that in the view of the Canadian Government existing conditions did not make an international fund practicable at that time. The ninth session, however, adopted a resolution supported by Canada which expressed the hope that a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development could be established as soon as possible. This resolution also requested Mr. Scheyven to prepare a further report on the proposed fund and on its relationship with other regional economic commissions and existing programmes for economic development.

The tenth session of the General Assembly had before it a resolution recommending that the comments of member nations be requested on Mr. Scheyven's latest report, and that an *ad hoc* committee be established to consider such comments. The Canadian Delegation in voting on this resolution in the Economic and Financial Committee recorded its understanding that this *ad hoc* committee would prepare a report containing a summary and analysis of the views expressed by governments and such conclusions as clearly emerged from this analysis. In a statement on November 10, the Canadian Representative emphasized the need to accelerate the economic development of under-developed countries and referred to the contribution Canada had already made in this field. The Canadian Representative also said "We very much hope that present trends will lead to a situation in which we can with confidence reduce substantially our expenditure on armaments, but it would be unwise in the extreme to do so as yet".

The tenth session of the General Assembly in plenary session approved on December 9, with Canadian support, the resolution which requested the Secretary-General to invite the members of the United Nations to transmit to him not later than March 31, 1956, their views on the establishment of a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development, and established a 16-member *ad hoc* committee, including Canada, to analyse these views and report to ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

<sup>1</sup>See *Canada and the United Nations 1951-52*, pp. 50-51.

<sup>2</sup>See *Canada and the United Nations 1953-54*, pp. 40-41.