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CANADA'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

FAMILY OF ORGANIZATIONS

Introduction

Canada's substantial and rising contributions to the United Nations family of organizations bear witness to its firm support for and active participation in the world organization. The majority of the lesser organizations have been created since 1945, although some, such as the Universal Postal Union, were formed late in the last century. Their main purposes are to foster a peaceful international environment with economic and social progress, and to provide facilities for the implementation of international agreements in the political, economic, trade, social, technical and other spheres of activity.

Canada's contributions to the United Nations fall into three broad categories: (a) annual assessments to finance appropriations of the organization under its regular budget; (b) peacekeeping contributions; and (c) contributions to the activities of a variety of multilateral economic, social, and humanitarian programs. The assessed and voluntary payments made by Canada to the United Nations since its inception in 1945 total approximately \$421.8 million.(1)

During the same period, assessments and voluntary contributions to the non-financial intergovernmental agencies amounted to about \$80.2 million. Substantial additional resources have been placed at the disposal of the financial agencies to encourage the growth of international trade, monetary co-operation and economic development.

The following pages provide more detailed information on the nature and extent of Canada's contribution to the United Nations family of organizations. The three appendices contain detailed statistical information on contributions. Appendix A details the Canadian contributions during the financial year April 1, 1971, to March 31, 1972. Appendix B breaks down Canada's contributions to organizations, programs and activities between 1945 and March 31, 1972. Appendix C compares the voluntary contributions of Canada and 11 other major contributors to five important programs.

(1) All financial figures are in Canadian dollars unless stated otherwise.

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