

The Canadian Delegation announced at a pledging conference which was held in New York in October 1958 that, subject to Parliamentary approval, the Canadian Government would contribute \$2 million (U.S.) to the Special Fund for 1959-1960. This proposed contribution would make Canada the third largest contributor to the Fund, which is expected to have available resources in excess of 25 million for the first year of its operation.

At its resumed 26th session in December 1959, the Economic and Social Council elected the following countries as members of the Governing Council: Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States representing the more developed countries; and Argentina, Chile, Ghana, India, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, the United Arab Republic and Yugoslavia representing the less developed countries.

Technical Assistance

The growing recognition of the interdependence of nations and of the need for more rapid economic progress in the less developed countries has led to the establishment of the multilateral technical assistance programmes of the United Nations. These programmes, which constitute an important part of the activities of the United Nations and which have enjoyed broad support throughout the world, are designed to meet some of the most urgent needs of the less developed countries for specialized knowledge in the fields of advanced technology, administration, education, and in almost every other field related to their economic development. Canada's support for the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations has been reflected not only in its financial contributions or the active part Canadian Representatives have taken in discussions concerning the setting up and administration of these programmes, but also in the number of experts and opportunities for training Canada has made available.

The technical assistance activities of the United Nations had their origin in the Specialized Agencies which, as part of their normal operations, instituted arrangements to help member states in agriculture, education, public health and other fields of direct interest to them. These were later supplemented by assistance in public administration and social welfare provided under the authority of a General Assembly resolution, through the Secretariat of the United Nations. The "regular" programmes are financed from the annual budgets of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, and absorb about \$2 million annually. The General Assembly decided in 1949, on the recommendation of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), to supplement the regular programmes by establishing an Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA). The EPTA covers a wider field of activities including the training of students and fellows in more advanced countries, the sending of experts and advisers, the exchange of technical information, the organization of seminars for the discussion of economic development problems on a regional basis, in certain cases the provision of experts on a payment basis and the supply of equipment which may be required by experts or trainees in the context of their assignments. The Expanded Programme is operated through the Technical Assistance Administration (a branch of the Secretariat of the United Nations) and the Specialized Agencies¹; it is financed by voluntary contributions from member

¹The Specialized Agencies now participating in the Expanded Programme are the International Labour Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Telecommunications Union, the World Meteorological Organization, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and the International Monetary Fund also co-operate in a consultative capacity.