

(c) Burma, Korea, the Maldives Islands, New Zealand, the U.S.A. and Vietnam;

(d) Australia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand.

On November 18 and 19, 1966, the experts again met in plenary sessions and further reviewed and co-ordinated the Country Chapters and sections of the Contributions Chapter.

The meeting of officials opened on November 21, 1966, and closed on November 26, 1966. It was attended by all 22 member countries and by observers from the Asian Productivity Organization, the Colombo Plan Bureau, ECAFE, IBRD, and UNDP. Observers from the Commonwealth Secretariat and from Iran and Singapore (which were subsequently admitted as members) attended for the first time. The leaders of official delegations made brief statements reviewing generally the economic situation in their countries and the progress of economic development, as well as external and intra-regional assistance. The delegates then split up into individual committees for substantive consideration of the papers prepared for them by the experts the preceding week.

The ministerial session was inaugurated by Mr. Ghulam Faruque, Pakistan's Commerce Minister, on November 28. Ministerial delegates then made statements to the plenary session reviewing the economic progress in their respective countries or their aid programmes.

Canada's New Policies

Canada's statement to the Committee was delivered by Mr. C. E. McGaughy, the High Commissioner in Pakistan, who represented the Secretary of State for External Affairs at the meeting. The address, which was received warmly, emphasized the changes and new policies in Canada's aid programme which had evolved since the last Consultative Committee meeting. These include such things as greater emphasis on food and agriculture, an expanded development loan programme, charter membership in the Asian Development Bank, emphasis on aid to countries likely to achieve significant growth quickly and an expansion in the level of the aid programme. Favourable mention of the further softening of Canada's interest-free development loans by the removal of the three-quarters of one per cent service charge was made by delegates from several recipient countries.

Following the opening statements, the delegates turned to consideration of the reports and recommendations prepared for them. With minor changes, the Committee accepted the recommendations placed before them.

Findings of the Committee

Concerning the overall economic situation, the Committee noted that the economy of the area presented a mixed picture during the period. While the rate of growth had been improved upon in some countries, there was a slowing-down in others