

recently in developed countries. As a result, the FAO's role in the future will be as much concerned with economic and social adjustment in the structure of agriculture as with the technology of increasing agricultural output....

Today, there are many UN Specialized Agencies, and therefore there is more scope for specialization by the Agencies. I am of the opinion that the FAO should be more selective in its activities. It should concentrate on the problems that have the highest priorities in the light of current developments and future requirements. These requirements are to a large degree highlighted in the international strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade, and the FAO Indicative World Plan, which has been referred to on several occasions and does not require further comment on my part.

AGRICULTURAL TARGETS

What does the strategy for the Second Decade of Development propose in the field of agriculture? It sets as a general target an average annual rate of growth of at least 6 per cent in the gross national product of the developing countries during the decade; this will imply an average annual expansion of 4 per cent in agricultural output - a staggering task, bearing in mind past rates of increase. In order to meet this target, developing countries have committed themselves to augment production and improve productivity in agriculture. They have, for example, undertaken to formulate national strategy for agriculture to improve the quantity and quality of their food supply, and the reform of land-tenure systems for promoting both social justice and farm efficiency. They will adopt appropriate agricultural pricing policies as a complementary instrument for implementing the agricultural strategy. On their side, the developed countries such as Canada will support these endeavours by providing resources for obtaining essential "inputs", through their assistance in research, for building of infrastructure, and also by taking into account in their trade policies the particular needs of developing countries. International organizations, especially the FAO, in respect to agriculture, will be actively involved in helping to attain these objectives....

In the past, it has been assumed that any increase in agricultural production, any increase in food supplies, automatically results in economic and social benefits to all the people. This is not necessarily so. Technological changes, as we have said, lead to changes in the structure of agriculture, and can also have an impact on other sectors of our economy.

It has also been assumed that increased production will automatically result in increased food availability. This is not the case. Food, after it is produced, has to be processed, moved, stored. Also, more consideration should be given to widening the spectrum of food types, to providing, especially in developing countries, a greater variety of foods.

EMPHASIS ON MARKETING

More emphasis should be put on the marketing of agricultural products, and on the processing of farm and fish products. But here I should like to issue a word of warning. Many changes are occurring in the processing, packaging, storage and transportation of food. The FAO should look ahead in providing marketing and processing know-how to developing countries. After all, the aeroplane has made it possible for New Zealand to deliver in the same day fresh lamb to Vancouver, and Canada to deliver purebred cattle to Uganda and Guatemala. With new technological developments and larger air-cargo planes being built, we may find it economically possible to ship fresh food great distances within a matter of hours. Add to this new roads, refrigerated transports, increase in urbanization in all parts of the world, and the pattern of food distribution is completely altered. Perhaps high priority of research should be given even in the developing countries to market research.

Related to the above is the work of the FAO on food standards. Good progress has been made to date in defining standards as they apply to quality, health and sanitary conditions. Good progress has been made in proposing international standards that will result in reducing the use of food standards as non-tariff barriers in international trade. To date, in the main, the developed countries have been most actively involved. Too few of the developing countries are participating. The FAO should expand its activities in this area, and concentrate on assisting and encouraging developing countries to participate in the Codex Alimentarius program.

PROBLEMS OF APPLYING TECHNOLOGY

We have yet to discover a satisfactory technique that will enable us to transfer easily and effectively the technological know-how and scientific knowledge in a form that will fit into the requirements of the economically-developing countries. We know that the gap between the low-income and the wealthier nations of the world, and between regions within a country, is to a large extent a science and technology gap. However, past experience has taught us that direct transfers of capital, knowledge and experts do not by themselves provide all the ingredients necessary for the advancement of the less-developed countries. These countries must develop their own capabilities of producing the goods and services they require to raise the level of well-being of their people. If capital and technical assistance are to be effective, they must be integrated into the specific economic and social setting of each of the developing countries. To do this requires development of new ways of applying existing technologies to meet the particular needs of the less-developed countries....

We in Canada are very much aware of the importance of this aspect of multilateral and bilateral aid. We have set up an International Development Research Centre. In brief, the Centre will identify, initiate and encourage, support and undertake re-