

of all kinds and the Government of Canada is considering how it can help further with this requirement. Whatever generosity we can summon, however, and I know that many governments have been generous over the years in their response to the needs of the refugees in the Middle East, will not be sufficient to solve the underlying problem. It is essential that justice be done to the rights and claims of the refugees in the framework of a general settlement.

The principles of compensation, repatriation, and re-settlement enunciated in previous resolutions of our Assembly provide the necessary guidelines for settling the refugees in permanent homes. The parties directly concerned have moral and historical obligations towards the refugees which must be recognized. But it would be unrealistic to expect that they could in present circumstances carry out alone an effective programme of this kind.

I would, therefore, hope that this Organization might give serious study to the establishment of a co-ordinated plan of international action, aimed at regional economic development on an ambitious scale. It would help provide a basis for a solution of the refugee problem and could lead to a new era of peace and prosperity in the area. It would require the full support of the members of this Organization as well as the co-operation of the countries of the Middle East. Such a plan might encompass agricultural and mineral development, a co-ordinated approach to the development and utilization of water resources and, if feasible, projects for desalination and the production of electrical power.

It would appear essential that an international programme along these lines be carried out in conjunction with a settlement of other outstanding questions, if it is to have any prospect of success. Nevertheless we should not delay for this reason an attempt to develop a practical programme and to establish the appropriate machinery.

### Africa

Another principal area of concern to the United Nations over the past year has been the situation in Southern Africa, particularly in Rhodesia and South West Africa. Canada supported--and I wish to reaffirm that support-- Resolution 2145 which terminated the mandate of South Africa over South West Africa and brought South West Africa under the direct responsibility of the United Nations. We participated actively as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee for South West Africa in the search for practical means of