

too ambitious in our initial operations. In our view, immediate attention should be given to making adequate and orderly provision for coping with emergency and near emergency needs. We should also start to experiment with pilot projects in those areas of economic and social development which will assist countries to raise their average food consumption and general levels of living.

As stated in Part II, we believe that as conditions, experience and financial resources permit, the United Nations and FAO might give further consideration to the scope and limitations of a truly multilateral programme.

Thirdly, it is in our view imperative that in the operations of the World Food Programme the commercial interests of food exporting countries and those performing related services must be fully protected, as indeed must those of agricultural producers within the recipient countries themselves. It would, Mr. Chairman, be impossible to lay too much stress on this consideration.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, the Charter of the World Food Programme should reflect our recognition of the fact that whatever may be done through the United Nations system to alleviate hunger, the ultimate and lasting solution to the problem of hunger lies in an effective acceleration of economic and social development which will allow the developing countries not only to increase their own food production and consumption to levels which they can sustain, but also to purchase more food through normal channels of international trade.