

related to the work of existing agencies and their well-proven programmes. I have particularly in mind the work of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. Over the last nine years, this Programme has achieved a considerable measure of success, and like all successful pioneering operations, has brought out certain needs of a different kind which require a somewhat different approach and a different distribution of resources. The essence of these needs lies in the assistance which will in specific cases create the conditions in which new capital investment of high development value will be accelerated. It is in this setting that the Special Fund may find an important, if initially modest, role."

The new Fund, which started operations on January 1, 1959, will direct its activities towards enlarging the scope of the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations. The Fund is designed to assist relatively large projects in the fields of resources, industry, agriculture, transport and communications, building and housing, health, education, statistics and public administration. The Fund's practical contribution in these fields will take the form of surveys, research work, the provision of training experts, equipment and fellowship (when required as integral parts of specific projects financed by the Fund) and the establishment of pilot projects and demonstration centres. In creating the Special Fund the General Assembly directed that in the choice of projects consideration should be given to such factors as the urgency of the needs of the requesting countries, the need for a wide geographical distribution in allocations over a period of years, the close integration of projects into national development programmes, and effective co-ordination with other multilateral and bilateral programmes.

As an organ of the United Nations, the Special Fund is administered under the authority of both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The Assembly will also be responsible for reviewing the scope and future activities of the Fund. Control over its policies and operations is exercised by a Governing Council comprising equal representation of the industrial countries on the one hand and the under-developed countries on the other. The Governing Council has final authority for the approval of projects and programmes recommended by the Managing Director. The Managing Director is appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. At the end of its thirteenth session the General Assembly confirmed the appointment of Mr. Paul Hoffman to this post. A Consultative Board composed of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairman of the Technical Assistance Board, and the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, will assist the Managing Director in the appraisal of requests for assistance. While the Managing Director has a small staff of his own, he relies principally on the existing facilities of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies to carry out the programmes of the Special Fund.

The Fund is financed by voluntary contributions from members of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. The resolution setting up the Fund provides that contributions shall be made by governments in readily usable currencies and without limitations concerning which agency shall use such funds or which country shall benefit from them. Recipient governments will be responsible for financing local costs of projects undertaken by the Special Fund.