

United States, and the non-committal attitude of many other governments, it was recognized that efforts to draft statutes for SUNFED would be premature. After considerable discussion, the Assembly agreed to ask the *ad hoc* committee to prepare for the twenty-fourth session of ECOSOC its final report on replies of governments to the questionnaire (although a number of countries, including the United States, still had not replied) and to append to its final report any related suggestions for the provision of assistance to under-developed countries which governments might put forward. The *ad hoc* committee was also requested to prepare a supplementary report, based on replies of governments to the questionnaire and on United Nations discussions (a) setting forth "the different forms of legal framework" on which the proposed SUNFED might be established and statutes drafted and (b) indicating the types of projects which might be financed by the proposed SUNFED.

In the various discussions of the SUNFED proposals during the year—in the *ad hoc* committee, in ECOSOC, and the General Assembly—Canadian Representatives took a sympathetic but somewhat reserved attitude. On the one hand, Canadian Delegations sought to reaffirm Canadian support for and understanding of efforts by under-developed countries to raise their living standards and strengthen their economies; on the other hand, it seemed clear that the concept of an internationally controlled capital aid fund had not been accepted in principle by many countries which would be expected to be the main contributors, and that for the present, capital assistance to less developed countries would for the most part continue to be through bilateral programmes or groupings of bilateral programmes such as the Colombo Plan.

Exchange of Information About Economic Assistance Programmes

In speaking to the Canadian Red Cross Society in Toronto on March 12, 1956 the Secretary of State for External Affairs referred in the following terms to the United Nations role in the field of capital assistance:

"It is also very important, I think, that the United Nations should be brought more closely into the international economic assistance picture, as has recently been suggested by the U.N. Secretary-General and others. This will be the best way of establishing the *bona fides* of those who wish to participate in this work.

I do not mean by this that all mutual assistance programmes should be administered by the United Nations. True, the present U.N. programmes are being effectively handled, without political or strategic considerations getting in the way, and they deserve more support than they are receiving. There are, however, things like the Colombo Plan, operated outside of, but within the spirit of the United Nations, which should be continued as they are.

What I would like to see is an agreement between all nations contributing to any form of international assistance that they would submit all their plans and policies in this field to the United Nations,