

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, announced today that the Canadian Government has decided to raise its contribution to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to \$18 million (U.S.) for 1972. This contribution, which is subject to approval by the Canadian Parliament, represents an increase of \$2 million (U.S.) or 12.5 per cent over the previous year.

In communicating this decision to the United Nations today, Mr. Paul St-Pierre, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, made the following remarks before the plenary session of the United Nations General Assembly:

"Mr. President,

It is a pleasure to affirm once again that the Canadian Government strongly supports the United Nations Development Programme.

We know of course that not all the consensus guidelines for improving the capacity of this programme have been implemented. Some important issues remain to be resolved. We need sustained dedication to the cause, we need cooperative effort by all member governments of the United Nations, particularly those represented on the Governing Council, the management of the UNDP and other UN organizations.

In accordance with those beliefs, it is our intention to increase our contribution this year by \$2 million. My delegation is pleased to announce that subject to the approval of the Canadian Parliament, Canada will contribute \$18 million (U.S.) to the United Nations Development Programme in 1972. Thank you sir."