

"UNICEF we admire your work and are very grateful for coming to vaccinate the children of El Salvador."⁸⁴

This is not to say that in a humanitarian ceasefire the progression from aid-giver to mediator will be the natural course of events. But the initiation of, and participation in, a humanitarian ceasefire has, on occasion, lead to requests by the government concerned for increased involvement on the part of the NGO in the developmental affairs of the country. In its *Lebanon Annual Report* for 1987 UNICEF noted that the success of the immunization campaign prompted both the President and the Prime Minister to request that UNICEF participate in a larger project of assistance to meet the basic relief needs of the poorer half of the population.⁸⁵ In El Salvador, as well, the success of the immunization ceasefires prompted requests for greater UNICEF participation in that country. In fact, one Salvadoran official acknowledged that increased UNICEF involvement in El Salvador had implications not only for development but for peace:

This is a great achievement and we owe it to UNICEF. That is why we ask UNICEF to increase its activities in our country, but we ask also for a greater presence from your agency and urge it to act as a factor of peace and neutrality.⁸⁶

Humanitarian ceasefires can be the thin edge of the wedge for humanitarian organizations, leading to increased development related activities in countries at war. This, alone, has significant implications for peacebuilding. But beyond this, the increased level of involvement, and the interaction with, and service to, the population that it entails, can only help the humanitarian organization accumulate the ascribed resources, such as saliency, respect and continuity, that Young says are a requirement for the successful mediator.

⁸⁴ Letter from Agop Kayayan to James P. Grant, 5 March 1985.

⁸⁵ UNICEF, *supra* note 49.

⁸⁶ Pelle, *supra* note 35, p. 19.