

fields such as housing, social defence and the social services — to take but three examples — the scope and opportunity for international action is on the whole rather specialized and limited. To the extent that international action is called for and found to be practicable, it would seem to consist essentially of technical assistance and advice, provided through surveys, reports and studies such as those which the Council and the Commission have been receiving these last few years. I have no doubt that these reports and surveys can serve as valuable guides and standards for all governments concerned with social policy questions, particularly for those newly independent states which are faced with the responsibility of creating for the first time a network of modern social welfare services.

Technical assistance in the field of social policy is not, of course, limited to surveys and studies made by the United Nations Secretariat or by expert working groups. Through the Advisory Welfare Services programme, provision is also made for scholarships and fellowships which make it possible for selected individuals to visit other countries for the study of more advanced programmes in various social welfare fields. Technical assistance funds have also been provided for consultants and technical missions to countries requiring help in the setting up of new social welfare or training programmes. In Resolution 731 G of the 28th Session, the Council requests the General Assembly to increase the level of the budgetary appropriation for Advisory Welfare Services. My Delegation wishes to reserve its position with respect to this request until it has had an opportunity, presumably in the Fifth Committee, to examine in greater detail the evidence presented to the Council on which this recommendation for increased funds was based.

The Council, at its most recent session, also authorized the establishment of an expert group to study the organization and administration of social services. This study is the third in a series beginning with the Report on a Co-ordinated Policy on Family Levels of Living in 1956, and followed by the Report on National Social Service Programmes of 1959. It is the view of the Canadian Delegation that, by convening such expert groups as those referred to, and by circulating widely the reports which they produce for comment, criticism and study, the United Nations is providing the kind of technical guidance and assistance that will be of invaluable help to countries engaged in the strengthening and improvement of their social-welfare programmes. It goes almost without saying that these studies will be of even greater value to governments in countries which have recently acquired self-governing status, and which are now faced with the formidable task of building a new structure of social services fitted to the needs of their people, and also within the limits of their national resources.

Before passing on to other matters, I should like to make one more comment in connection with the section of the Council's report dealing with the world social situation. Page 79 of the International Survey of Programmes of Social Development refers to the world shortage of teachers and expresses the view that, to overcome this shortage, two measures have permanent value — "an increase in the facilities for training teachers and an improvement in the teachers' conditions of service". The development of the facilities mentioned in the Survey