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CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

The operating costs of the United Nations, as set out in the organization's annual budget and approved by the General Assembly are met by assessing the member nations in accordance with an agreed formula based on their relative capacity to pay. In 1969, Canada's share of the regular budget was \$4.05 million, or 3.02% of the net total. Canada is the eighth largest contributor.

In addition to the activities covered by the regular budget, the United Nations carries out extensive programmes of economic and technical assistance, aid to refugees, etc., which are financed by voluntary contributions from Member States.

From March 31, 1945, to March 31, 1969, Canada paid assessments of about \$45.8 million to the regular budget of the United Nations and of approximately \$15 million as its share of the costs of peace-keeping operations in the Congo (ONUC)¹ and the Middle East (UNEF)². By the end of March, 1969, Canada had also absorbed costs of about \$14.4 million, without seeking reimbursements from the United Nations, to maintain its peace-keeping contingent in Cyprus (UNFICYP)³. From March 31, 1945, to March 31, 1969, Canada made voluntary contributions to special United Nations programmes such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the World Food Programme (WFP) of over \$232 million. In addition, Canada as a member of each of the 13 Specialized Agencies of the United Nations and of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), was assessed and made contributions of about \$131.7 million (excluding subscriptions to the Bretton Woods Institutions). In all, Canada's total contribution to the United Nations and its related bodies, the IAEA and the United Nations Association in Canada (UNAC), totalled approximately \$438.9⁴ million during the period March 31, 1945 - March 31, 1969.

1. ONUC ceased activities June 30, 1964.
2. UNEF was withdrawn in June 1967.
3. This figure represents the cost to Canada over and above the cost which the Government would have had to bear in order to maintain these forces in Canada.
4. Unless otherwise indicated, all financial figures are in Canadian dollars.

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