



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today that Canada and eleven other member states of the United Nations have been appointed by the President of the General Assembly, Sir Zafrullah Khan, to serve on the Preparatory Committee for a Year of International Co-operation. The other members of the Committee are the Central African Republic, Ceylon, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Finland, India, Ireland, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand and the United Arab Republic.

On December 19, 1962, the General Assembly in Plenary session unanimously adopted a resolution on this subject which had been introduced by India and Canada and co-sponsored by eighteen other countries. It requested the President of the Assembly to nominate a Preparatory Committee of up to twelve member states to consider the desirability of designating 1965, the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations, as International Co-operation Year. The Committee just appointed will report to the eighteenth session of the General Assembly next autumn on measures and activities which might be undertaken by member states, the Specialized Agencies and non-governmental organizations to further the objectives sought in the proposal.

The main objective set out in the Assembly resolution is expressed in the belief that the nations of the world would be well served both by an increased awareness of the existing

level of international co-operation and by a marked increase in the number of projects in various fields, jointly undertaken on an international basis. The General Assembly expressed the conviction that a designated period of rededication to international co-operation would serve to direct attention to the common interests of mankind and to accelerate the joint efforts being made to further those interests.

The proposal for an International Co-operation Year was first advanced at the United Nations by Prime Minister Nehru in 1961, during the course of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly. The Canadian Government has lent its full support to the proposal and, at the most recent session of the Assembly, the Canadian Delegation played an active role in promoting broad acceptance of the resolution embodying the proposal. The Preparatory Committee is expected to meet shortly in New York at United Nations Headquarters.