

CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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Canadian Contribution to the United Nations  
Development Programme for 1967

Text of Statement to be made at the Pledging Conference of  
the United Nations Development Programme by the Canadian  
Representative, Mr. Donald S. Macdonald, M.P., Parliamentary  
Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs,  
on October 6, 1966.

Canada has followed with interest and gratification the growth both in size and in diversity of the technical assistance and pre-investment programmes of the United Nations. We supported both programmes from their inception. Last year we welcomed their consolidation into a single United Nations Development Programme. The consolidation is, of course, not yet complete, but the advantages of bringing the two programmes together are already obvious. The second session of the Governing Council of the Programme, held in Milan in June, demonstrated that considerable progress has already been made towards realizing the benefits the General Assembly had in mind when it created the United Nations Development Programme through the consolidation of the existing Expanded Programme for Technical Assistance and the Special Fund. We expect, Mr. Chairman, that the new Programme as a whole will prove even more effective and imaginative than either of the previous programmes could achieve alone.

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With these considerations in mind, Mr. Chairman, Canada will, subject to the approval of our Parliament, contribute a total of \$10,750,000 (Canadian) to the United Nations Development Programme in 1967 for technical and pre-investment activities. This pledge represents an increase of \$1,250,000 (Canadian) over our contribution for 1966. We make this pledge of an increased contribution in recognition of the urgent need to meet the annual target of \$200,000,000 set by the Twentieth Session of the General Assembly, and more important, because we believe that the United Nations Development Programme represents a most effective way of helping the developing countries realize the vast potential of their own resources. The remarkable amount of investment resulting from the pre-investment surveys speaks for itself and the crucial role that technical assistance must play in the complex and difficult process of development has become increasingly recognized.

The United Nations Development Programme will, we are convinced, help us to achieve our common goal which, in the words of Mr. Hoffman, is to "make productive the vast potential wealth of nations so that in the developing lands this generation may hope to be the last of the desperately deprived. Such must be the end goal towards which we shape our policies and our programmes. For, in the final analysis, the betterment of human life is the one standard by which all our work will be measured and our existence itself be justified."

The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country. It is a very interesting study of the economic and social conditions. The author has done a great deal of research and his conclusions are well founded. He has also taken into account the views of the people themselves. This is a very important point. The second part of the report deals with the specific measures which have been taken to improve the situation. These measures are very comprehensive and cover a wide range of subjects. The author has also shown how these measures have been put into effect. This is a very valuable contribution to the study of economic and social development. The third part of the report deals with the future prospects of the country. The author has shown that there are many opportunities for improvement and that the country has a bright future ahead of it. This is a very optimistic view and is well supported by the evidence. The fourth part of the report deals with the conclusions of the study. The author has shown that the country has a great deal of potential and that it is possible to improve the living standards of the people. This is a very important message and one which should be taken to heart by all who are concerned with the welfare of the country.

