

Delivered by Professor R. St. John Macdonald

Mr. Chairman,

The ECOSOC Report reflects growing awareness of the need for greater resources for social development and at the same time it emphasizes the importance of using such resources efficiently and to maximum advantage within the development plans of member states. It reaffirms the interrelatedness of social and economic development.

Coming as it does at midpoint of the Development Decade, the Report requires serious consideration, because it identifies problems which have contributed to unevenness in social development during the past five years. <sup>my Del</sup> Canada therefore supports those sections which call for intensified efforts in this area of international activity and congratulates ECOSOC and the Social Commission for the attention which is being given to the role of the United Nations in the social field, and particularly to the role that the Social Commission should play in fostering concerted and coordinated activity in this field.

As no resolutions <sup>appear to be</sup> are before the Third Committee, the following comments, Mr. Chairman, are offered by way of a general reaction to the ECOSOC Report. As far as paragraphs 406 - 408 <sup>(which deal with targets of Social Dev)</sup> are concerned, it is our view that the Secretariat should be encouraged in its efforts to obtain more information on social targets. We would urge member states to reply to the letter now being circulated by the Secretary-General because we think that only as such information is obtained and assessed can the United Nations play an effective role in the matter of priority determination in the social field.

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As regards paragraphs 412 - 414, namely, the appointment of a small group of experts to undertake the duties there specified, we are interested in this idea and are able to give it tentative support, but we believe that it requires further study. An examination of the basic question of distribution of income, even if it only identifies the major issues, will help focus attention on fundamental social and economic factors underlying many social welfare problems. We also note with enthusiasm the broader concept of income which is used in the Report.

As regards paragraphs 415 - 416, we note that the Secretary-General has been asked to prepare a draft programme in connection with regional development projects currently underway in selected member states. In our opinion there is some advantage in studying projects in industrialized as well as in developing countries, and we would, in this regard, be happy to make available to interested states the interesting experience which we in Canada have had in the agricultural rehabilitation and development area.

As regards paragraphs 417 - 418: Canada has supported this Conference <sup>with interest</sup> and is <sup>will be</sup> submitting proposals for its formal agenda.

As regards paragraphs 419 - 424: We might point out that Canada has played a not unimportant part in the Social Commission's efforts to reappraise the United Nations social welfare programme through participation of Dr. J.W. Willard (Deputy Minister of Welfare) as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Social Welfare.

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Mr. Chairman, I would draw particular attention to the emphasis which is being placed on coordinated services to youth in Canada; to the recognition that has been given to the need for trained personnel in social welfare field; and to recognition of the fact that rehabilitation services should be included in social welfare programmes of member states, with emphasis being placed on pilot schemes using local resources to the maximum extent possible.

As regards paragraphs 425 - 426: The importance which is attached to programmes directed at children and youth is perhaps pointed up by the awarding of the 1965 Nobel Peace Prize to UNICEF.

As regards paragraphs 427 - 430: <sup>my Delegation</sup> Canada supports the view that juvenile delinquency and adult criminality are <sup>not purely legalistic problems: legal</sup> important social problems which should concern the social commission. <sup>most</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>future</sup> <sup>we</sup> <sup>expect</sup> <sup>to</sup> <sup>see</sup> <sup>an</sup> <sup>increase</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>these</sup> <sup>problems</sup>. In view of the fact that delinquent behaviour can be expected to accompany social change, and that there have been requests for help by member states, organizational problems should not be permitted to impede significant work in this area.

As regards paragraphs 431 - 437: The determination of priorities in the social field, and reappraisal of the role of the Social Commission, are matters to which Canada attaches the utmost importance. We would hope that a reappraisal of the Social Commission would utilize experts to the maximum extent possible, and we think it wise to have the reappraisal assignment given to a body other than the Social Commission itself.

*detachment into public*

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...in regard to the Report of the Secretary-General in 1964  
...It should be noted that this report, coming from  
the Secretary-General, asks member states to indicate "possibilities  
of increasing the technical cooperation resources which they  
could offer". It may be that many member states will not find  
it possible to state categorically what increases they are likely  
to offer over the next few years. In our view, the Secretary-  
General should nevertheless be encouraged to proceed with his  
enquiry, even if the enquiry must consider priorities based on  
existing levels of technical cooperation resources.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, in regard to the statement made  
by the distinguished representative of the United States  
to the effect that the less-developed countries should be  
divided <sup>according to their degree of development,</sup> into categories, our delegation does not especially  
favour any move in this direction. We think that categori-  
zation would tend to separate rather than unify developed and  
developing countries, and in any case, we doubt that any categori-  
zation of this type is practicable.

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