



CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement No. 80

December 5, 1966

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME

Text of the statement made in the Second Committee
by the Canadian Representative, Mr. Donald S. Mac-
donald, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Secre-
tary of State for External Affairs, On Dec. 5, 1966.

I would like to express appreciation to Administrator, Mr. Hoffman, both for his remarks and for his leadership of a successful programme. May I also commend the Deputy Administrator, Mr. David Owen, and the other members of the management of UNDP for his and their contribution to success.

During the years since Mr. Hoffman first became the head of the Special Fund, we have learned to expect from him the type of clear, concise and informative statement he has given us this morning. What he has said provides a most useful survey of the progress the UNDP has made since the General Assembly created it one year ago from the former Special Fund and Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. We welcomed the indications the Administrator has provided of steps that have been taken or have been proposed to realize the full benefits of the consolidation of the two former programmes. Mr. Hoffman has told us how the management is endeavouring to put its own house in order so that it can offer the quality of leadership in project conception, implementation and follow-up which is essential to a successful programme.

Equally essential to a successful programme is leadership in the field as well as leadership at headquarters. We are gratified with the apparent progress that has been made in strengthening the central co-ordinating role of the Resident Representative. We note in particular that the former country representatives of the FAO will now be incorporated into the office of the Resident Representative and be directly under his authority. We shall want to say something more about the role of the Resident Representative when ECOSOC considers this important question at its next summer session.

My delegation would like to lay particular stress on the importance of meeting the goal of \$200 million for contributions in 1967. In terms of the yardstick referred to by Mr. Hoffman, namely the percentage contribution to the regular budget of the UN, my country has surpassed its target by way of contributions to the UNDP in each of the past two years, and in the current year by nearly double our target. We do not feel that we should be asked to go the extra mile, or

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that we should be required to do so, until a number of other participants in the UNDP, and I have in mind a number of developed countries larger than my country in terms both of population and Gross National Product, have met their targets, and thereby assisted in closing the gap of \$30 million.

I note in particular the Administrator's and the Secretary-General's reference to an even greater need for pre-investment work. My delegation is also concerned that the important work, which is the very foundation for high rates of growth in developing countries, should continue and should receive support at highest levels of expenditure.

I would refer in this connection to Mr. Hoffman's reference to "how much capital may have been saved for productive use through the ten completed surveys which counselled against financing." The prevalent theme in our discussions in this committee has been the importance of providing greater financial resources for developing countries. In the face of a recognized shortage of capital, it is all the more important that expenditure be made on a sound pre-investment base. To suffer capital loss through inadequate pre-investment preparation would, to borrow a phrase, be worse than a crime--it would be a manifest blunder!

It is for that reason that my delegation lays heavy stress on the importance of supporting the UNDP. In financing economic development there can be no substitute for sound pre-investment preparation.

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