

The Economic and Social Council, at its twenty-sixth session held in Geneva during the month of July 1958, discussed United Nations activities in the field of economic assistance to under-developed countries. It adopted a resolution recommending to the General Assembly the establishment of a Special Fund which would enlarge the scope of the existing United Nations programs of assistance to include special projects in certain basic fields, such as extensive surveys of water, mineral and potential power resources, and the creation of training institutes in public administration, statistics and technology, and of agricultural and industrial research and productivity centres. The General Assembly approved the Council's recommendations and the Special Fund came officially into being on Jan. 1, 1959. The Canadian Government contributed \$2,000,000 to the Fund in 1959 and will seek Parliamentary approval for a further \$2,000,000 contribution in 1960. Canada has been elected as a member of the Governing Council of the Special Fund, to hold office for three years from Jan. 1, 1960.

For many years the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies have conducted special programs of assistance to overcome certain acute problems and serious deficiencies that exist in various areas. Money for these programs is not available through the regular United Nations budget nor through the regular budgets of the Specialized Agencies (these regular budgets are raised by assessing all member States, the scale of assessment being based mainly on gross national product) but must be raised from voluntary contributions made by member states. At present the United Nations is sponsoring four special programs: the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (ETAP); the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA); and the program of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, formerly UNREF). Canada's contributions in 1959 were: \$650,000 to UNICEF; \$500,000 to UNRWA (plus a special contribution of \$1,500,000 worth of wheat flour); \$290,000 to the programs of the UNHCR; and \$2,000,000 to ETAP. Canada intends, subject to Parliamentary approval, to make similar regular contributions in 1960.

In 1958 the United Nations designated the period June 1959 to July 1960 as World Refugee Year and urged members to make an extra effort to help solve this problem. As a special contribution to World Refugee Year, Canada announced that it would admit 100 tuberculous refugees, with their families, for treatment and rehabilitation in Canada. The cost of this program for the initial year is estimated to be \$750,000 with substantial expenditures expected in succeeding years before the families are completely rehabilitated.

Canada has also announced its intention to seek Parliamentary approval for a contribution in the amount of \$100,000 to the Malaria Eradication Special Account of the World Health Organization for 1960. This voluntary fund was established in 1956 when the World Health Organization launched a campaign for the world-wide eradication of malaria. It is used to provide technical advice and assistance to countries undertaking national programs of malaria eradication.

Canada made a voluntary contribution of \$50,000 to the operational fund of the International Atomic Energy Agency with provision for a further \$25,000 if justified by the response from other members. Canada was also the first nation to make a free gift of approximately three tons of natural uranium metal to the Agency, which sold it to Japan. In addition, Canada paid an annual assessment to the United Nations, to some of the Specialized Agencies and to the International Atomic Energy Agency totalling about \$3,441,000 in 1959. Canada's share of the normal administrative budget of the United Nations proper for 1959 was at the rate of 3.11 p.c., or \$1,666,896.

Trusteeship Council.—The Trusteeship Council supervises the administration of the agreements between the United Nations and the member States of the United Nations which have responsibility for trust territories. The Council held two regular sessions, the twenty-third in January–March 1959 and the twenty-fourth in June–August 1959. It also held two special sessions, one in October 1958 and the other in November 1959.