

regional institutions. Among the many UN organizations which Canada supported in 1973 were the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the World Food Programme (WFP). During 1973 Canada gave \$20.3 million to the UNDP, the world's largest pre-investment and technical assistance organization. The UNDP has an estimated program budget of \$290 million. The WFP has had 603 projects in 88 countries at a total cost of nearly \$1.4 billion since its inception in 1963. In 1973 Canada contributed \$17 million to the Program in cash and commodities.

As its sixth largest contributor, Canada has continued to play an important role in the World Bank Group, consisting of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Finance Corporation. Negotiations for a fourth replenishment of funds for IDA, the agency responsible for the Bank's lending program to under-developed countries, were completed in 1973. Canada agreed to contribute \$276 million in four instalments beginning in the 1974-75 fiscal year.

Canada also continued its support for the four regional development banks — the Asian Development Bank, the Caribbean Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank — during 1973. There were two major developments in this area in 1973. One was the approval in principle of an Asian Development Fund by the Board of Governors of the Asian Development Bank. The other was a \$5-million interest-free loan to the African Development Bank. This loan marks the first time Canada has supported a development bank other than by capital stock in the bank or by contributions to a special fund.

CIDA's bilateral development program is divided into three types of aid — technical assistance, economic assistance and international food aid — and into five regional programs. During 1973, 2,245 students and trainees from developing countries studied in Canada under CIDA's technical assistance program and 1,389 Canadian advisers and educators worked overseas. Under a unique feature of Canada's technical training program some 412 students and trainees studied in developing countries other than their own.

Canadian bilateral economic assistance is divided almost evenly between grants and loans. Most loans are extended for 50 years and are interest free, with no repayment required for the first 10 years.

The allocation for bilateral food programs was \$68 million in 1973-74; this is approximately 18% of the total allocation for bilateral programs although it does not cover all CIDA food aid. Some, such as emergency food relief, is handled multilaterally by UN agencies.

Canada's role in the Colombo Plan, a program initiated by Commonwealth governments in 1951 (and subsequently joined by other governments) to administer aid to South and Southeast Asia, is the largest and oldest of the regional bilateral aid programs administered by CIDA. It was allocated \$153.4 million in 1972-73 and \$160 million in 1973-74. However, because of the size of the Asian population it has much less impact than aid from Canada has in such areas as the Caribbean or parts of Africa.

Since 1951 Canada has provided more than \$1,826 million in bilateral aid, most of it directed to Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In recent years Canada's program in this area has changed considerably. Capital assistance, in the form of loans and grants, is now provided for specific economic sectors given priority by the recipient countries in fields such as communications, transportation, electric power development, agriculture, fisheries, mining, lumbering, medicine and public health.

CIDA's programs in francophone Africa, which includes the eight least developed nations of the world, were initially concentrated on technical assistance projects particularly in education and health. Since 1970, however, Canada has broadened the scope of its assistance and increased its support in the area from \$29.7 million to \$59.1 million. Canada has become increasingly involved in the economic development of the region through projects that combine capital and technical assistance, and which accord with the priorities of the countries concerned.

Development in the Sahelian or sub-Saharan Zone of francophone Africa has been retarded because of a severe drought in the region during the last five years. CIDA contributed \$10 million in food, cash, air transportation and other goods and emergency services in 1973 to the six countries most seriously affected.

The Special Commonwealth Africa Assistance Plan resulted from discussions at the 1960 Commonwealth Prime Ministers' meeting. Canadian assistance to Commonwealth Africa has grown from an initial provision for technical and educational assistance to include a variety of