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SECRETARY-GENERAL ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT  
OF HENRY LABOUISSSE JR. AS UNICEF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Secretary-General, U Thant, today announced the appointment of Henry Richardson Labouisse, Jr., as Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for a term of five years.

Mr. Labouisse has been United States Ambassador to Greece since 1962. Before his diplomatic assignment in Athens, he was Director of the International Cooperation Administration, a fore-runner of the Agency for International Development (AID).

From 1954 to 1958, he served the United Nations as Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

In 1959, Mr. Labouisse became a Consultant to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and was chief of a mission organized by the Bank to survey the economy of Venezuela. In the summer of 1960, he took temporary leave from the Bank to serve for two months as Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on United Nations operations in the Congo.

In December 1960, he was appointed the World Bank's Special Representative for Africa.

The Secretary-General's appointment, made after consultation with the 30-nation UNICEF Executive Board at a closed session today, fills a vacancy caused by the death of Maurice Pate on 19 January 1965. Mr. Pate had served as Executive Director of UNICEF since its creation in 1946.

Citing the extensive experience of Mr. Labouisse in international development activities, the Secretary-General termed him a man possessing "the combination of qualities UNICEF needs: a humanitarian outlook, experience of international economic affairs and international administration, and the practice of diplomacy".

The Secretary-General also expressed his gratitude to the President of the United States, Lyndon Johnson, for the release of Mr. Labouisse from the service of his Government.

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Mr. Labouisse will join UNICEF in time to attend the annual session of the Executive Board scheduled for June of this year.

He was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on 11 February 1904. Mr. Labouisse has had a long and varied career in law and public service. A graduate of Princeton University (A.B. 1926) and Harvard University (LL.B. 1929), he practised law for more than 10 years before joining the United States State Department in 1943. He was closely associated with the Marshall Plan, having served successively as Chief of the Special Mission to France for the Economic Cooperation Administration and successor agencies; Special Assistant to the Under Secretary for Economic Affairs in Washington; and Coordinator of Foreign Aid and Assistance.

He married Eve Curie, the noted French author, in 1954.

#### UNICEF Functions

The organization Mr. Labouisse will administer has broader functions than the agency created by the General Assembly in December 1946 to distribute milk, blankets, clothing and medicines to the mothers and children of war-torn countries. The emergency operations of UNICEF were successfully concluded by 1950, and the General Assembly directed it to turn its attention to assistance of long-term benefit to children in the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Today UNICEF aid is directed to helping countries protect their children and youth, and also prepare them for life. Grants in aid are made to projects benefiting children in the fields of health, nutrition, social welfare, education, and vocational training. This is done with the technical advice of specialized agencies of the United Nations. UNICEF aid, amounting to about \$30 million a year, ranges from tools for gardens to entire pasteurization plants, from simple kits for village birth attendants to equipment for pediatric hospitals. Stipends and grants are provided to help train national personnel related to children's needs. Through 30 area and country offices, UNICEF representatives work closely with Government officials in planning the best use of UNICEF aid for children and youth within the broad context of national development.

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UNICEF income is derived entirely from voluntary contributions. Voluntary contributions from Governments account for about 80 per cent. Private donations, fund-raising campaigns -- such as the Halloween "Trick or Treat" project in the United States -- and the sale of UNICEF greeting cards account for the rest of the Children's Fund income.

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Note: Photographs of Mr. Labcuisse are available at the Press Documents Counter.