

BREAD and STONES

Leadership
and the Struggle to Reform
the United Nations
World Food Programme

James Ingram

Bread and Stones is a story of successful United Nations reform by a former Executive Director of the World Food Programme. The WFP stands out as thoroughly professional and effective among the tangle of weak organizations that makes up the dysfunctional United Nations system.

Based on the author's diaries, Bread and Stones gives a unique 'insiders', 'warts and all' look into the inner workings of the system. Though unusually candid about personalities, this memoir is factual and analytical. It has been written to record an important episode in UN history, to provide a lively case study of the obstacles to reform and to serve as valuable source material for all students of international organization.

The strategies that can lead to successful reform are identified. Despite their criticisms governments give weak and inconsistent leadership. Strong, far sighted leadership by governments and agency heads is needed if the vested interests of both in the present system are to be overcome.

'The larger interest of this book is what it tells...about the UN system and international organizations generally.'

Spells out 'with great clarity and force' (the UN's problems).

'The crucial ingredient is leadership—at the top of the system as a whole and in each of its component parts'.

Ingram's book is both 'a handbook and an inspiration' (for those) 'who remain determined to make the UN system live up to its... ideals'.

(From the Foreword by Gareth Evans CEO of the International Crisis Group and adviser to the UN Secretary-General.)

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