

Pursuant to the Convention, the Air Navigation Commission is composed of 12 members appointed by the Council from among persons nominated by the contracting States, having suitable qualifications and experience in the science and practice of aeronautics. The Commission considers and makes recommendations to the Council on all the technical aspects of international air navigation and, in particular, makes recommendations for the adoption and modification of Standards and Recommended Practices that are adopted as Annexes to the Convention. The Air Transport Committee, also established pursuant to the Convention, is composed of 12 members similarly appointed. This Committee considers and makes recommendations to the Council on matters in the economic field of international aviation. The Joint Support Committee is a Committee of Council that deals with matters in the field of joint international financing of air navigation facilities and services required for the benefit of international air navigation. The Finance Committee, a Committee of Council established pursuant to a resolution of the Assembly, performs the normal functions laid down in the financial regulations and is responsible for taking appropriate action to ensure that the moneys voted by the Assembly are properly spent and that the most efficient and economical method of carrying out the approved program is observed. The Legal Committee of ICAO was created pursuant to a resolution of the Assembly under which all contracting States are entitled to participate in the work of the Committee. A Canadian nominee is a member of the Air Navigation Commission and Canada's Representative on Council is a member of all the other Committees.

The Secretariat of ICAO is composed of about 425 members. Approximately 150 senior employees have been recruited on an international basis from 29 of the Member States of ICAO in accordance with the established policy of securing the widest possible geographical representation in the Secretariat consistent with the maintenance of high standards of efficiency. Most of the remainder of the staff are recruited locally.

For the purpose of organizing the work of ICAO, particularly in the technical field, the world has been divided into eight regions: North Atlantic, Caribbean, European-Mediterranean, Middle East, South East Asia, South American-South Atlantic, South Pacific-North Pacific and African-Indian. Also, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of liaison, particularly in regard to technical matters, between the Headquarters of the Organization and the Governments of the Member States, there are five Field Offices located at Cairo, Lima, Melbourne, Montreal and Paris. These offices are responsible for co-ordinating the work in the field of aviation of the various States in the respective areas and for assisting in arranging for the implementation of the recommendations of regional meetings.

Work in the Technical Field.—The most important activities of ICAO and the major part of the work accomplished lie in the technical field. Using the draft technical annexes to the Convention as a basis, the Organization has developed standards and recommended practices covering practically all the important technical aspects of international air navigation. The Air Navigation Commission which, in PICAQ and during the first two years of ICAO, operated as a Committee of unlimited membership, played a most important part in this work. Normally, the first step in developing standards is to invite all the contracting States to send representatives to a 'Division' meeting at which, on the basis of an agenda and documentation prepared by the Secretariat and the Commission, the technical experts contribute, from their knowledge and experience