

Agencies, and has worked to encourage and develop their programs.* The opportunities for useful and desirable work by the Agencies are unlimited, but since the funds available to them are not, the Council has sought to obtain maximum effect by co-ordinating their activities and by encouraging the application of a system of priorities for their programs. Canada has taken an active part in this phase of the work of the Council. It has particularly recommended that the Specialized Agencies stimulate and support national efforts rather than engage in direct operations.

The Convention of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) stipulated that 21 nations, of which seven should each have a total tonnage of not less than 1,000,000 gross tons, must signify their acceptance before this new Specialized Agency could come officially into being. With the deposit of instruments of ratification by Japan and the United Arab Republic on Mar. 17, 1958, the Convention on IMCO came into force on that date. Canada was the first country to ratify the Convention having done so on Oct. 15, 1948. The purpose of IMCO is to promote co-operation among governments in international shipping problems.

In addition, there came into existence on July 29, 1957, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). This body, though not technically one of the Specialized Agencies, is, like them, an autonomous international organization under the aegis of the United Nations. The provisions of the Statute of the International Atomic Energy Agency concerning both designation and election to the Board of Governors specified several categories of membership, including the selection as designated members of "the five members most advanced on the technical aspects of atomic energy, including the production of source materials" Canada, France, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Soviet Union achieved membership on the Board in this category.

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 Projects 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. It is expected that the General Assembly will approve the Council's recommendations during its thirteenth session, and that the Special Projects Fund will come officially into being early in 1959. The Canadian Government has announced that it will seek parliamentary approval for a contribution of \$2,000,000 to this Fund in 1959.

The United Nations and its Specialized Agencies have undertaken for many years special programs of assistance to overcome certain acute problems and serious deficiencies that exist in various areas. Since money for these special programs is not available through the regular United Nations budget or 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), it must be raised from voluntary contributions made by member states. At the present time the United Nations is sponsoring four special programs: the United Nations Expanded Program 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 United Nations Refugee Fund (UNREF). Canada made substantial contributions to these four programs in 1958: \$650,000 to UNICEF, \$500,000 to UNRWA, \$200,000 to UNREF and \$1,976,875 to ETAP. For 1959 Canada is pledged to contribute \$650,000 to UNICEF, \$500,000 to UNRWA, \$290,000 to UNREF and \$2,000,000 to ETAP.

* Canada's activities in connection with three of these Specialized Agencies—United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Food and Agricultural Organization and International Labour Organization—are dealt with elsewhere in this volume. See Index.