

Agency's General Conference. This conference formally noted the conditions agreed on by the federal and Quebec governments by which the latter was admitted to the institutions, activities and programs of the agency as a participant. The event confirmed Quebec's special interest in co-operation among French-speaking countries. Since that time the governments of New Brunswick, Ontario and Manitoba have become involved in the Agency's activities. Canada is also a member of the Conference of Education Ministers of the Francophone States of Africa and Madagascar as well as being a founding member of the Conference of the Youth and Sports Ministers of Francophone Africa and Madagascar; the fifth Conference will be held in Canada in 1974. In 1971 Canada took part in the Conference of Ministers of the Civil Service of French-speaking countries. Canadian participation is based on full federal co-operation with the provinces interested in these organizations.

4.6.2.3 Canada and the United Nations

Firm support for the United Nations is an essential element of Canadian foreign policy. Over the years Canada has contributed to UN peacekeeping efforts in various parts of the world, including the Middle East, Kashmir, the Congo, West Irian and Cyprus. At present, this country maintains a large contingent in Cyprus (UNFICYP) to assist the UN in preventing open fighting between the Greek and Turkish communities. Canada has consistently advocated strengthening the UN's peacekeeping capacity by advance planning at UN headquarters and advance cost-sharing arrangements. Despite slow progress and occasional setbacks, Canada continues to believe that the UN has an important role to play in the maintenance of international peace and security.

Canada also participates directly in the work of the UN through its membership in various UN bodies including the 13 specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal is the only specialized agency of the UN with headquarters in Canada.

Canada belongs to 18 subsidiary or ad hoc bodies of the General Assembly, including the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the Disarmament Commission, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, the Board of Auditors, the United Nations Scientific Advisory Committee, the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, and the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and Ocean Floor Beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction. Canada maintains Permanent Missions to the UN in New York and in Geneva.

Canada pays 3.08% of the organization's regular budget and is the eighth largest contributor. In the UN financial year 1972, Canada's share of the net expenditures of about \$209 million was approximately \$5.5 million. The cost to Canada of maintaining its contingent in Cyprus was about \$1.6 million in 1971-72. In addition, Canada makes voluntary contributions to special UN programs such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in the Middle East (UNRWA) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Membership of the Economic and Social Council was increased in December 1971 from 27 to 54 by amendment to article 61 of the UN Charter, to take effect when two thirds of the membership of the UN, including the five permanent members of the Security Council, have ratified the amendment. Meanwhile, Canada, although not a member of the Council, does hold membership on many of its most important sub-bodies, including the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Advisory Committee on the Application of Science and Technology to Development, the Committee on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the Committee on Review and Appraisal of the Second Development Decade and the Committee on Natural Resources.

Canada serves on the Governing Council of the UN Development Programme and on the Executive Board of UNICEF, is a member of the Trade and Development Board of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) as well as a member of all UNCTAD's main Committees — Commodities, Manufacturing, Shipping, and Invisibles and Financing relating to Trade — and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Canada played a leading role in the 1972 United