

of the multilateral aid-giving institutions. A brief summary of the agencies follows:

**The International Labour Organization (ILO)**, originally established with the League of Nations in 1919, became a specialized agency of the UN in 1946. It brings together representatives of governments, employers and workers from 126 (1975) member states in an attempt to promote social justice by improving living and working conditions in all parts of the world. Canada has been a member of the ILO from its inception and as a leading industrial state has been assigned one of the 10 non-elective seats on the governing body.

**The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**, established in 1945, is one of the largest of the specialized agencies, with 136 members. Raising the nutrition levels and living standards of its member countries and improving production and distribution techniques for food, agriculture, fishery and forest products are two of its objectives. The FAO Secretariat provides advisory services, collects and publishes agricultural and fisheries statistics, and organizes international conferences and meetings of experts.

FAO has headquarters in Rome and regional offices in Washington, Bangkok, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago and Cairo. Canada participates in FAO functions and is a member of the FAO Council, the Committee on Commodity Problems, the Committee on Fisheries, the Consultative Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposals, the FAO Group on Grains, the North American Forestry Commission and other FAO bodies. The Joint FAO-WHO Food Standards Program, controlled by the Codex Alimentarius Commission, is administered by an executive committee of which Canada is a member.

The World Food Program was established under the joint auspices of the FAO and the UN to provide food aid on a multilateral basis for emergency relief, including the feeding of children, and to promote economic and social development. Its approved target for pledges for 1976-77 was \$750 million. Between January 1963 and the end of 1974, Canada pledged \$132 million to the program and was ranked as its second largest supporter; the 1975-76 regular plus supplementary pledges totalled approximately \$100 million, making Canada the program's largest contributor. For 1977-78 Canada pledged \$100 million and gave a supplementary pledge of grain amounting to \$45-50 million, depending upon the price.

**The World Health Organization (WHO)**, with 145 members and two associate members, is a directing and coordinating authority on international health matters. The objective is "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health"; WHO provides advisory and technical services from its Geneva headquarters to help countries develop and improve their national health services. At the 28th World Health Assembly in Geneva in May 1975, Canada was elected to the WHO Executive Board for a three-year term.

**The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** was established in 1946 "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law, for human rights and fundamental freedoms". Its headquarters is in Paris and membership is 135 states and three associate members.

UNESCO has three main components — the General Conference which is the policy-making body, the Executive Board and the Secretariat. Representatives from member states make up the General Conference which meets every two years. The 18th Session of the General Conference in Paris in 1974 approved a budget of approximately US\$170 million for 1975-76, giving priority to the educational needs of the developing countries and to science activities, particularly the application of science to development; the Canadian assessment rate is 2.91%.