

general conference in Abidjan approved New Brunswick's request for similar recognition.

Various private French-language associations also work to develop relations between their members around the world. The agency has stimulated their activities and led to the creation of a number of new organizations. The Canadian government supports several that are either Canadian or have significant Canadian participation. The most recent of these institutions is the International Council of French speaking Radio and Television which was to be formally constituted in June 1978.

3.6.2.3 Canada and the United Nations

Since the inception of the United Nations, support for the UN system has been an integral part of Canadian foreign policy. Canada has played a significant role in the General Assembly and is a member of a number of its subsidiary bodies including the special committee on peacekeeping operations, the conference of the committee on disarmament, the committee on the peaceful uses of outer space, the United Nations scientific committee on the effects of atomic radiation, the committee on contributions and the board of auditors. At the beginning of 1977, the General Assembly had 147 members and was close to achieving universal membership.

In 1977 Canada served on the Security Council for the fourth time. Canada was previously on the Security Council in 1948-49, 1958-59 and 1967-68. Each term is two years long; Canada's present term ends December 31, 1978.

On the 12 occasions that UN troops have been dispatched to deal with threats to peace and security, Canada has actively participated. In 1976 over 1,500 Canadians were involved in UN peacekeeping, the largest commitment being to the United Nations force in the Sinai, where over 850 specialists of the Canadian forces were employed in logistics support. A similar role was being performed by more than 150 Canadians in the United Nations force in the Golan Heights area. In Cyprus, Canada provided infantry to patrol and monitor existing arrangements between the disputants.

Canada contributed over \$6 million to peacekeeping in 1977. At the same time, Canada actively sought equitable reimbursement arrangements for countries which were participants in UN peacekeeping forces. Standard scales of reimbursement for each of the troop-contributing countries have been adopted for the UN forces in the Sinai and the Golan Heights. This is a significant advance over the uneven reimbursement scales of previous peacekeeping operations.

Canada has also served at regular intervals on the third principal organ of the UN, the Economic and Social Council. Canada's most recent term on ECOSOC was 1975-77. Generally, two sessions of the council are held annually, one in New York to discuss social and humanitarian questions, and one in Geneva to examine economic questions including, for example, food problems and international co-operation. The council is also charged with co-ordinating the work of some 167 subsidiary bodies of the UN system. Examples of those on which Canada is represented are: the governing council of the UN environment program, the commission on narcotic drugs and the committee on science and technology for development.

In recent years the UN has devoted more time to human rights, and new declarations, conventions and covenants have been promulgated. In 1976 four international human rights instruments came into force: the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights; the international covenant on civil and political rights; the latter's related optional protocol; and the international convention on the suppression and punishment of the crime of apartheid. Canada has encouraged the preparation of such instruments and has stressed building better mechanisms for effective enforcement of standards. To emphasize Canada's commitment, special importance has been placed on securing membership on UN human rights bodies. During 1977 Canadians served on the commission on human rights and the UN human rights committee.

Canada is the ninth largest contributor to the UN, and in 1977 was assessed 2.96% of the regular budget or in dollar terms nearly \$10 million (Table 3.7). Canada also makes voluntary contributions to the United Nations development program, the United