

strategic stability; maintenance and strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime; negotiation of a global chemical weapons ban; support for a comprehensive test ban treaty; prevention of an arms race in outer space; and the building of confidence sufficient to facilitate the reduction of military forces in Europe and elsewhere.

Canada makes a significant practical contribution to arms control and disarmament by encouraging compliance with existing treaties; developing mechanisms to verify compliance with treaties; and by contributing to the building of confidence between East and West. As part of Canada's program of action for the remaining half of the disarmament decade, the Canadian government provides \$1 million annually to the verification research unit in the Department of External Affairs. This unit focuses on the practical, technical problems linked to verification that must be resolved as a prerequisite to incorporating binding verification provisions in arms control treaties.

Domestically, the Canadian government seeks to enhance the public dialogue on these issues through such means as the office of the ambassador for disarmament, the consultative group on disarmament and arms control affairs, through wide dissemination of *The Disarmament Bulletin*, and through support for non-governmental research and public information activities via the disarmament fund.

21.3.6 UN specialized agencies

Canada is a member of the specialized agencies of the UN, and is the host country of one, the International Civil Aviation Organization. Canada maintains permanent missions to the UN headquarters in New York, Geneva and Vienna to UNESCO in Paris and the IAEA in Vienna. Canada also has accredited representatives to agencies located in Rome (FAO), Nairobi (UNEP) and Vienna (UNIDO). The regular budgets of the UN specialized agencies in 1984 totalled approximately US\$1,084.5 million. Canada's largest contributions were to the WHO, FAO and UNESCO.

WHO (Geneva). The World Health Organization is the largest of the specialized agencies in size of programs. To achieve its purpose of improving the health of the people of the world, WHO carries out programs of training and aid to equip countries to improve their own health services. WHO also provides day-to-day information on major communicable diseases, such as cholera and yellow fever. It has also co-ordinated large-scale industrial research into heart disease and cancer.

Canada has also given substantial financial support to UN efforts, under the aegis of the World

Health Organization, to meet the pandemic outbreak of AIDS.

FAO (Rome). The Food and Agriculture Organization has the second largest budget of any of the specialized agencies. Its purpose is to raise levels of nutrition and improve production and distribution of food supplies from farms, forests and fisheries. The FAO carries out programs of technical assistance in nutrition and food-management, soil-erosion, reforestation, irrigation engineering, pest-control and the use of fertilizers.

UNESCO (Paris). The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization endeavours to promote international co-operation and understanding in the spheres indicated by its name. UNESCO carries out programs designed to increase facilities for education.

ILO (Geneva). The International Labour Organization, established by the Treaty of Versailles, strives to promote social justice by improving labour conditions and living standards. The ILO, in co-operation with management, labour and government, endeavours to establish minimum standards in such fields as social security, wages, hours of work, safety and worker compensation.

ICAO (Montreal). The International Civil Aviation Organization establishes international standards and regulations for civil aviation and promotes the development and planning of international air transport. It has been active in efforts to protect international civil aviation from all forms of terrorist activity. Programs are carried out to improve safety, to simplify procedures for international air travel and transportation, and to aid countries in developing air networks.

ITU. The International Telecommunications Union, oldest of the specialized agencies, is responsible for regulating, co-ordinating and planning international telecommunications in the fields of telephone, telegraphy and broadcasting. ITU cooperates with individual countries in developing telecommunications.

WMO. The World Meteorological Organization was established in 1950 to replace the International Meteorological Organization, formed in 1878. The WMO's primary function is to facilitate the international exchange of weather reports, to aid aviation and shipping, and to help countries establish meteorological services.

UPU. The Universal Postal Union is the second oldest specialized agency. Its purpose is to promote the organization and improvement of postal services and to provide technical assistance as requested.