

ANNEX II

Partial Catalogue of the

Principal International Organisations in the Migration and Refugee Field

(a) UN Organisations

1. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (**UNHCR**) has under its protection and care some 15 million refugees under the 1951 Geneva Convention and 1967 Protocol (the number is disputed); and discussions in its 44-member Executive Committee or "Excom" (of which Canada is a member), various sub-groups and its Secretariat deal increasingly with other displaced persons who are not strictly within its mandate, and with migratory movements as a whole. Of particular importance for Canada is its Sub-Committee on International Protection, which deals with difficult issues such as refugee status determination and asylum; it has set standards for the treatment of refugees, and its findings (not all of which are necessarily to our liking) are often quoted domestically. It is now attempting to develop a more systematic dialogue and development of guidelines on contemporary protection concerns. In a sense the "Informal Consultations" act as its Western caucus. The UNHCR's budget is voluntarily financed. Its 1990 general expenditures were US \$332 m., and special programmes and trust funds totalled \$208 m. See Section XIV for discussion of current trends.
2. **UNRWA**, the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, assists some 4 million Palestine refugees and is empowered to provide emergency humanitarian assistance to others affected by the 1967 war. Its projected 1991 budget, about half of which was for education, was \$254 m. Its activities and problems of the refugees are discussed in consultative bodies in Vienna and annually at the General Assembly.
3. The International Labour Organisation (**ILO**) has concerned itself with labour migration, including the status of migrant workers and their reintegration in home countries (e.g. Egyptians etc. displaced by the Gulf crisis) and the relationship between economic underdevelopment and emigration. This latter aspect is being increasingly emphasized (see Section XIV).
4. The **UN Population Division** (see Annex I) includes detailed analysis of migration trends in its demographic studies, and these are submitted formally to ECOSOC's **UN Population Commission**.
5. The 1994 UN **International Conference on Population and Development** (see Annex I) will have as one of its six themes an item on internal and international migration and urbanisation; an expert group on this aspect will meet in Peru in January 1993, and