

ment. It is the duty of the Department of External Affairs to bring questions of this sort to the attention of the interested departments in order to ensure that the views of those departments are taken fully into account when Canadian policies are decided upon. At the same time, the Department of External Affairs itself must provide guidance on the international political aspects of the questions.

The many United Nations subjects for which the Department of External Affairs accepts initial responsibility — and they are the majority of United Nations subjects — are assigned, for the initial preparation of policy recommendations, to appropriate divisions within the Department. The Department's divisions are either "area" divisions or "functional" divisions and each United Nations subject usually falls logically within the competence of one division. Thus, the United Nations action in Korea is a question for the American and Far Eastern Division, the question of the Greek children is the concern of the European Division, the United Nations Disarmament Commission is handled by one of the Department's two Defence Liaison Divisions, the proposal for an international development fund is dealt with by the Economic Division, the question of reservations to multilateral conventions is a matter for the Legal Division, and so on. Co-ordination in matters of policy on all United Nations questions is the primary responsibility of the United Nations Division. It keeps the area and functional divisions of the Department of External Affairs and other government departments informed on problems arising in the United Nations which are of particular interest to them. With their assistance and upon their advice, it drafts replies to communications from the Secretary-General and prepares reports requested by United Nations bodies. It compiles instructions for Canadian delegations to sessions of the General Assembly, of the Economic and Social Council, and of some of the Specialized Agencies, and it reviews, in its function as co-ordinator, the instructions for delegations to other United Nations bodies. It also prepares, for the information of Parliament and of the Canadian public, periodic reports on Canadian activities in the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, for example, the annual publication *Canada and the United Nations*, and the section on the United Nations in the Department's monthly bulletin *External Affairs*.

The main function of the United Nations Division, therefore, is one of co-ordination rather than one of recommending policy. Nevertheless, there are several sorts of matters in which the United Nations Division itself accepts initial responsibility. These include preparations for international meetings and the selection of delegations (in co-operation with the Department's International Conferences Section), elections to United Nations bodies and the election of officers within those bodies, the constitution of the United Nations and its membership, various administrative and financial questions (in conjunction with the Department of Finance), and a wide variety of incidental short-term matters. Of the Specialized Agencies, three have been assigned directly to the United Nations Division: the World Health Organization, the International Labour Organization, and the Universal Postal Union. (Six other agencies — the Bank, the Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, the International Telecommunications Union, and the World Meteorological Organization — have been assigned to the Economic Division of the Department of External Affairs, while the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization comes under the Information Division.)

Inter-departmental consultation is carried out in a number of ways. In addition to the usual exchange of correspondence and telephone calls, the following devices have been developed:

(a) *Ad Hoc* Meetings

These are convened at the suggestion of External Affairs, or of any other interested department, to deal with specific problems. Officials of each department dealing with those problems attend. Much use is made of this device, particularly when questions are being first explored. It has the great advantage of being flexible and capable of producing speedy action.

(b) Inter-Departmental Committees

These are usually established by Cabinet direction and are composed of deputy ministers or their representatives. Only a few such committees have been set up as a direct result of Canadian participation in the United Nations; an example is the Inter-Departmental Committee on the Food and Agriculture Organization. In general, however, United Nations