

Canada has fully supported the Agency's activities and programmes during 1959. In addition to its regular assessed contribution to the budget and to the gift of natural uranium mentioned above, it made a voluntary contribution of \$50,000 towards the "operational fund" out of which the Agency meets requests for technical assistance. There was provision for a further contribution of \$25,000 should it be justified by the response from other members, but this has so far not been called for. Canada, through Atomic Energy of Canada Limited, has also made many experts in various fields available to the Agency both on loan to the Secretariat and in the various expert symposia and panels: It has also helped the Agency's fellowship programme by reserving five places for Agency-sponsored candidates in the reactor school which was opened this year at Chalk River to give a training course for qualified scientists and engineers in the design and operation of reactors, with special emphasis on the natural uranium heavy water type.

World Health Organization

The World Health Organization (WHO), which came officially into being in 1948, is one of the largest of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations with a membership of 87. Canada played an important part in the preparatory meetings leading to the creation of WHO, and became one of its first members. A Canadian, Dr. Brock Chisholm, former Deputy Minister of National Health, became its first Director-General, a post which he held until 1953.

WHO functions through the World Health Assembly; an Executive Board, a Secretariat, and six Regional Committees. The World Health Assembly, the Organization's legislative body, is composed of representatives of all members and meets annually to determine the policies, programmes and budget of WHO. The Executive Board, a technical body, is composed of 18 persons designated by elected member states for their competence in the field of health. It meets twice annually to give effect to the decisions of the Assembly. The Secretariat is headed by a Director-General appointed by the Assembly and carries out the administrative work of the Organization.

Most of the operational part of WHO's work is administered through its six Regional Committees, each dealing with the health problems of its own geographical area. By special arrangement these responsibilities in the American region are delegated to the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), established in 1902 and known until 1958 as the Pan-American Sanitary Organization (PASO). The Pan-American Sanitary Bureau serves as the regional office of WHO in the area, and the Directing Council of PAHO, as the Regional Committee of WHO for the Americas. Canada has been represented by an observer at meetings of the Regional Committee which are held alternately in Washington and capitals of the member states. The most recent meeting was held in Washington from September 21-30, 1959.

The defined objective of WHO is "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health". To achieve this goal, WHO acts as the directing and co-ordinating authority on international health matters and provides advisory and technical services to help countries develop and improve their health services. It sends out expert consultants and demonstration teams of specialists upon request by interested countries, trains experts in modern methods of combating diseases, assists governments in control operations against communicable diseases, supports research in numerous virus and parasitic diseases, awards fellowships and assists in improving public health administration and in programmes of maternal and child health,