

III

SPECIAL BODIES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Over the years, the General Assembly has created certain bodies and organs with special assignments in the economic, social and humanitarian fields. One of these which continues to attract particular attention is the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), established in 1964 at the Assembly "to promote international trade especially with a view to accelerating economic development...". It reports to the General Assembly and its expenses are borne by the regular budget of the United Nations. A new organ, juridically and organizationally similar to UNCTAD, was established by the Assembly in 1966. This is the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), which is also designed to help in accelerating economic development in a specific area—industry.

While very different in purpose, size and character, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) were all created by the Assembly. Their budgetary arrangements vary, but in general their programmes are financed by voluntary contributions separate from the United Nations budget. All work closely with the United Nations itself and with the intergovernmental agencies in completing projects undertaken to fulfill their individual objectives.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

In 1965, the twentieth session of the General Assembly decided to establish a new organization known as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in response to the need for intensified United Nations action to accelerate the industrialization of the less-developed countries. UNIDO was envisaged as a new, semi-autonomous organization which eventually would replace the existing UN Centre for Industrial Development. An *ad hoc* committee was established by the Assembly to make recommendations on the structure and functions of this new organization.