

tions Commissions meet biennially in odd-numbered years, the Statistical Commission in even-numbered years. All the other commissions and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities meet annually. At the eighth session of the General Assembly, in 1953, it was suggested that the Social Commission should also revert to annual meetings and should be enlarged in membership to provide greater representation of underdeveloped areas and various economic and social patterns. A Canadian-sponsored motion to refer these and other proposals to the Council for consideration was eventually adopted. The Council will also have before it conclusions reached by the Secretary-General during his review of the organization and work of the Secretariat requested in General Assembly Resolution 784 (VIII). He has already recommended four-year terms of membership for those commissions meeting biennially, since with three-year terms some members attend two sessions and others only one. Other recommendations to reduce the volume of projects serviced by the Secretariat will, if approved, affect the work programmes of the functional commissions.

### Commission on the Status of Women

In the summer of 1953, the Economic and Social Council considered the report of the seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women and adopted a 12-part resolution giving effect to the recommendations contained in the report.<sup>1</sup> Part B of the resolution (504 (XVI)) extended an invitation to member states to submit their comments on a draft Convention on the Nationality of Married Persons, which is intended to ensure to women equal status with men in the matter of nationality. The Canadian Government submitted its comments on February 17, 1954 and pointed out that "insofar as the acquisition and loss of Canadian citizenship are concerned Canadian legislation makes no difference between sexes which would put women at a disadvantage".

Three other parts of the resolution required consideration by the General Assembly, which dealt with them at its eighth session. It authorized the Secretary-General to provide on request services which do not fall within existing technical assistance programmes in order to assist the requesting state in promoting and safeguarding the rights of women. The Canadian Representative, in voting for this resolution, expressed the understanding that for 1954 no additional budgetary provision would be required and that requests for technical assistance in this field would be considered within the framework of the programmes and on their merits. The Assembly also passed a resolution urging states to take measures for the development of the political rights of women in territories where these rights were not fully enjoyed and a resolution requesting the Secretary-General to despatch an invitation to non-member states which are members of the Specialized Agencies or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women. Canada voted in favour of both these resolutions.

<sup>1</sup>See *Canada and the United Nations 1952-53*, pp. 49-50.