

developed countries appeared likely to remain relatively unaffected however, since the EC planned to accede to the Code only with the reservation that no cargo sharing would apply in inter-EC trade and accession to the Code by other OECD countries, including Canada and the United States, remained doubtful. Almost without exception, the developed countries continued to work through the OECD to resist any movement towards either cargo reservation in the bulk trades or the phasing out of open registry fleets (flags of convenience) and, while the developing countries continued actively to promote these goals, little progress had been made by the year's end.

Considerable work continued to be dedicated to the very difficult task of trying to work towards the development of a common policy for all OECD countries on maritime transport with non-OECD countries.

Canada continued to play an active role in IMCO (the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization), which is a less contentious forum than UNCTAD since its major aims have been less evidently political in the establishment of standards relating to—and the formulation and implementation of international conventions on—marine safety and protection of the maritime environment. Canada was elected as a member of the IMCO Council (the organization's executive body) in November and Canada's representative was elected Chairman of that Council for the coming biennium.

On the domestic side, considerable effort was devoted to studying ways and means of promoting the gradual development of a deep-sea merchant marine, which was set out as government policy in mid-year. While much work had been done by year-end, analyses were not complete and recommendations to Cabinet had not yet been made.

In other areas of transportation, Canada continued to be active. In the first session of the UN Conference on a Convention on Multimodal Transportation, held in November after years of preparatory work, international agreement on a convention remained elusive and the conference was adjourned until mid-1980. Canada also continued to take part, depending on the relevance of the specific subject matter, in a wide range of technical conferences and meetings held under the auspices of the OECD, the ECE, the European Council of Ministers of Transport and other international organizations and agencies.

Space and communications

Canada continued to be actively involved in the work of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNCOPUOS). The first session of the Working Group of Experts on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space, established at the initiative of Canada, took place in February 1979, and produced a report which outlined the conditions under which this type of power source could be used safely. The UNCOPUOS also took the decision to hold the Second UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful

Uses of Outer Space, which is expected to take place in late 1982.

On January 1, 1979, Canada became a Cooperative Member of the European Space Agency and during the year attended various meetings of the Agency in order to identify those programs in which to participate. Active cooperation continued with the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), including a number of bilateral meetings. Canada became a member of the International Maritime Satellite Organization (INMARSAT) which came into being in July for the purpose of providing maritime vessels with satellite communications.

Work continued in the OECD on the preparation of Guidelines on the Transborder Flow of Personal Data and the Protection of Privacy. The Guidelines are expected to be completed by mid-1980.

The most significant event of the year in the field of communications was the World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC), which took place in Geneva September 24-December 6. Canada participated actively in the WARC and officials were generally satisfied with its outcome.

Investment, intellectual property and competition policy

Canada's active involvement in multilateral consideration of investment issues stems from the important part foreign direct investment plays in the Canadian economy and from a continuing interest in the role of multinational corporations (MNEs) in national and international development. Within the OECD framework, Canada was involved in the review of the 1976 Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises which resulted in ministers from member states reaffirming their countries' commitment to the Declaration. The next review of the Declaration and the accompanying Guidelines for MNEs will take place in 1984. The focus of the OECD's work in this area during the next year will be on incentives and disincentives to investment.

Preparations for a diplomatic conference on the revision of the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property continued throughout 1979. The conference was scheduled for February 1980.

With respect to competition policy, efforts in the OECD to promote intergovernmental co-operation in dealing with restrictive business practices centered on fact-finding and the exchange of information.

Export financing policy

Canada took part in continuing consultations among industrialized countries for the purpose of lessening unnecessary competition in officially supported export credit. All members of the OECD except Iceland and Turkey continued to adhere to the guidelines on export