Specialized Agencies

Specialized agencies are bodies which are not established by the Charter of the United Nations but are established by other inter-governmental agreements and have wide international responsibilities in economic, social, cultural, health and related fields. In order that their activities may be co-ordinated to a common end, they are brought into relationship with the United Nations by agreements negotiated with the agencies by the Economic and Social Council and approved by the General Assembly. Most of these agreements have already been concluded.

The thirteen existing or contemplated specialized agencies are:

- (1) Food and Agriculture Organization
- (2) Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization
- (3) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- (4) International Civil Aviation Organization
- (5) International Labour Organization
- (6) International Monetary Fund
- (7) International Refugee Organization
- (8) International Telecommunications Union
- (9) International Trade Organization
- (10) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- (11) Universal Postal Union
- (12) World Health Organization
- (13) World Meteorological Organization

Ten are now in existence. It is expected that during 1949 the International Trade Organization and the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization will be established as specialized agencies.

Non-Governmental Organizations¹

The Economic and Social Council is given power by the Charter to make suitable arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations which are concerned with international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters. A very large number of such organizations have applied for recognition.

The various organizations have been divided into three categories:

- (a) Organizations which have a basic interest in most of the activities of the Council, and are closely linked with the economic and social life of the areas which they represent.
- (b) Organizations which have a special competence, but are concerned specifically with only a few of the fields of activity covered by the Council.
- (c) Organizations which are primarily concerned with the development of public opinion, and with the dissemination of information.

¹ A list of non-governmental organizations that have been granted consultative status by the Economic and Social Council is given in Appendix VII, pp. 273-274.