

ble's Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions now reviews not only the annual budgets of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies but also the administrative portions of the budgets of the special programmes, and submits its recommendations to ECOSOC and to the Assembly.

ECOSOC, and particularly its Committee on Co-ordination, occupies a key position in the co-ordination of United Nations activities. The extent of its responsibilities, particularly over the Agencies, has been the subject of controversy. Canada considers that ECOSOC's function can best be discharged by efforts to provide general policy guidance to the Agencies and by direction of the work of the Council's functional and regional commissions. It is inevitable, in the Canadian view, that a major part of the responsibility for co-ordination must rest, in the final analysis, with the governing bodies and assemblies of the various Agencies and with their secretariats.

ECOSOC's Committee on Co-ordination has also devoted much study to the question of priorities — the concentration of effort and resources by the various organizations on the most important projects and activities. This work has helped to clarify the criteria by which priorities must be determined, and to standardize procedures for drawing up and presenting projected programmes of activity in terms of priorities.

Thus, the problem of co-ordinating the work of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the special programmes has received a great deal of study and consideration. Another aspect of the question, however, has not been overlooked. This is the co-ordination of national policies. Because of the vast number of subjects dealt with by the United Nations, there is a danger that a country's representatives may adopt an attitude in one United Nations body which is inconsistent with the attitude of other representatives of the same country in another United Nations body. This can only lead to confusion. The Assembly has urged governments to take steps to ensure that their own national policies are co-ordinated for the various United Nations bodies of which they are members, and the Secretary-General has carried out a survey of the administrative practices adopted by different governments to ensure this co-ordination. The Canadian Government's reply to the Secretary-General, outlining its own procedures for handling United Nations questions, to ensure that policies will be mutually consistent, appears as Appendix 3 to this volume.

## **Food and Agriculture Organization**

In most countries of the world, food production has not kept pace with population growth. The result is that inequalities in food supplies, which had been great before the war, have become greater. The gravity of this situation was recognized by the sixth session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) which met in Rome from November 19 to December 6, 1951. The Conference agreed that member countries should adopt agricultural