- 3. International Administrative Service. Other than the Indonesian Delegation, no delegation at the 24th Session of ECOSOC supported in any definite manner the International Administrative Service idea elaborated by the Secretary-General. During the Session the Canadian Delegation came to recognize that this proposal, which involves the provision by the UN of administrators to work as officials for long periods in the less developed countries, could be re-worked into a practical programme. This programme might be of considerable usefulness to some under-developed countries and would represent a reasonable expansion of the United Nations function of providing assistance to such countries in improving their internal administrations. This issue will arise again at the 26th session of ECOSOC and if the Canadian authorities wish to do so there would be an opportunity then and perhaps earlier in the General Assembly for making a useful contribution to the development of public administrative capacities in the under-developed countries by supporting some variation of these proposals. It is probable that if Canada or some other western delegation does not endeavour to push this idea, it will go by default.
- 4. Human Rights. It is suggested that our policy with respect to the Human Rights programme, which is of very considerable interest to many under-developed countries, might be re-examined. Hitherto we have not been very constructive in our approach. It may be that despite our constitutional difficulties a more co-operative approach is possible. Certainly the activities of the UN in this field are not of great financial proportions.
- 5. Refugees. It is unquestionable that, for relatively modest amounts of money the post World War II refugees problem in Europe could be settled. The programme currently approved, even if fully supported financially, falls short of this objective. On humanitarian, as well as financial, grounds there is a strong case for the extra effort to solve the problem.
- 6. Food Resources. The Delegation feels that one of the most potentially difficult issues which may be before future meetings concerns the use of surplus agricultural commodities in promoting economic development.
- 7. Community Development. The Delegation considers that the discussions of community development in the UN will certainly be active and will provide an important and probably reasonable opportunity to western delegations for the promotion of desirable progress in living conditions in under-developed countries. It is believed that support for this programme, which will likely be of relatively modest financial proportions, would be a constructive contribution in the social field, where hitherto Canada has not been a very active participant.
- 8. Commercial Policy. The USSR and other delegations have clearly shown that they intend to use UN forums for criticizing western commercial policy. It is possible that the Common Market proposals may come up for considerable discussion in the United Nations, particularly if the discussions in GATT do not yield what could be considered as generally satisfactory results for the under-developed countries. The pressure for commodity stabilization and arrangements will certainly continue to be felt on the Commission on International Commodity Trade, in which it cannot be expected that the US and UK will participate. The failure of the US Congress to ratify the OTC coupled with an apparent willingness on the part of the USSR and other communist countries to be more cooperative will create even greater difficulties.
- 9. Africa. ECOSOC will undoubtedly be expected in the future to pay much greater attention to the problems of Africa than it has until now. The principal emphasis will certainly be on economic development. Part of this pressure was revealed during the session in the TAC in connection with the resolution on Italian Somaliland.