

and it was therefore determined that the Organization's panels and expert committees should devote increasing attention to these and other related diseases. Also approved by the Ninth Assembly was a programme in the field of atomic energy which would provide training for public health personnel and comprehensive analysis of health risks arising out of radiation.

The Ninth Assembly approved a budget for 1957 of about \$11 million of which Canada's share will be \$382,940.

Canada has in the past played an important role in WHO and continues to do so today. Dr. Brock Chisholm, former Deputy Minister of Health, was prominent in the establishment of WHO and became its first Director-General, a post which he held until 1953. From 1952-55, and again from 1956-9, Canada was elected by the Assembly to designate a member to the Executive Board of 18 members. The Canadian member is Dr. P. E. Moore of the Department of National Health and Welfare. There are now 51 Canadians on WHO's full-time staff, and 41 Canadians in part-time service as members of 23 expert advisory panels.

Canada's membership in WHO does not mean that Canada gives much and gains nothing in return. There are serious health problems in Canada, such as accident prevention, rehabilitation of the physically disabled, prevention of mental illness, cancer and heart diseases. Canadian health planners and administrators derive great benefit from many of WHO's projects in the field of international health, from its technical bulletins and expert reports, its statistical analyses of disease trends, and its many other activities.

Food and Agriculture Organization

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is one of the largest of the United Nations Specialized Agencies, and now has a membership of 74 countries. The objectives of the organization are to raise levels of nutrition and living standards, stimulate efficiency and improvements in the production and distribution of food and agricultural products, and better rural conditions. Its headquarters are in Rome and its present Director-General is Mr. B. R. Sen of India. Conferences of FAO member countries are normally held every second year and the ninth session of the Conference will take place in Rome in the autumn of 1957. Canada has been a member of FAO since its beginning in 1945.

To carry out its purposes, FAO collects, analyzes and distributes statistics relating to food and agriculture, and publishes studies and reports. Meetings of the Conference and other FAO bodies provide a forum for international discussion of food and agricultural problems. The FAO Committee on Commodity Problems, for example, meets twice a year to discuss problems relating to the production and trade of food and agricultural commodities. A sub-committee studying surplus disposal problems meets regularly in Washington.

FAO directs and administers a technical assistance programme using funds from its own regular budget and also using additional funds contributed voluntarily by countries to the United Nations Expanded Programme for Technical Assistance (ETAP)¹. In 1957 FAO will receive about \$84

¹See above "Technical Assistance", pp. 60-62; see also *External Affairs*, Monthly Bulletin of the Department of External Affairs, January 1957, pp. 33-34.