

the Security Council for a two-year term for the fifth time since 1946. In 1989, the non-permanent members of the Security Council were Algeria, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, Finland, Malaysia, Nepal, Senegal and Yugoslavia. In 1990, the non-permanent Council members were Canada, Colombia, Ivory Coast, Cuba, Ethiopia, Finland, Malaysia, Romania, Yemen and Zaire.

c) *The First Committee*

The First Committee deals with arms control, disarmament and international security matters. It is a forum for debate and discussion rather than negotiation. In recent years, it has dealt with as many as eighty resolutions per year. Among the major issues of interest to Canada dealt with by the First Committee in 1989 were the following: prevention of an arms race in outer space, a total ban on nuclear testing and chemical weapons, a ban on fissionable materials intended for use in weapons, and streamlining of the Committee's work. Members of the Committee try to reach a consensus on all resolutions, but many are put to a vote.

d) *The Special Political Committee*

This Committee considers a wide variety of issues not dealt with by any of the other six Main Committees. During the 43rd Session, these included the effects of atomic radiation, international cooperation for the peaceful uses of outer space, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Israeli practices in the Occupied Territories, peacekeeping, information, the Malagasy Islands and, finally, apartheid.

e) *The United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC)*

The UNDC is another deliberating body whose work on arms control and disarmament is limited to certain aspects. In 1990, the UNDC dealt with the following subjects: nuclear disarmament, naval armaments and disarmament, South Africa's nuclear capability, the role of the UN in disarmament, conventional disarmament, the Third Disarmament Decade and objective information on military questions. During the 43rd Session held in 1988, the UNDC reached unanimously on two items, namely verification and confidence-building measures, both of which were removed from the agenda as a result. The Commission meets in May of every year for about a month, during which all member-states are entitled to participate. Unlike the First Committee, its work is conducted solely by consensus.

f) *Various Ad Hoc Committees and Bodies*

These are generally bodies which function on a General Assembly mandate. They are of both long and short duration, depending on the nature of their work and objectives. They include such bodies as the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR), the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS),