

any specific UN body. Prevailing international conditions and the personality and ability of a particular Secretary-General determine the extent of his involvement in specific problems, and the way in which these problems are handled.

The present Secretary-General, U Thant of Burma, was appointed Acting Secretary-General on November 3, 1961, to complete the unexpired term of office of the late Dag Hammarskjöld. On November 30, 1962, he was appointed Secretary-General for a term ending November 3, 1966. On December 2, 1966, on the recommendation of the Security Council, the General Assembly unanimously appointed U Thant to his second full term of office, ending on December 31, 1971.

The members of the United Nations Secretariat are international civil servants. In 1966 the total staff of the Secretariat (including the voluntary programmes) numbered 9,437 and more than 100 nationalities were represented on it. More than 40 Canadians served in the UN Secretariat in professional capacities during this period. Every person joining the Secretariat, thereby becoming an international civil servant, takes an oath "to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions entrusted to me as an international civil servant of the United Nations, to discharge these functions and regulate my conduct with the interests of the United Nations only in view, and not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any government or other authority external to the organization".

The membership of the Secretariat is divided into three categories: directing staff, professional personnel and general services personnel. A sizeable permanent Secretariat is maintained at the European headquarters of the United Nations at Geneva. The four regional economic missions are located in: Geneva (ECE), Addis Ababa (ECA), Santiago (ECLA) and Bangkok (ECAFE). The United Nations office in Beirut, established to serve as the headquarters of the UNRWA, also deals with the general needs of the Middle Eastern region. In addition, the United Nations maintains information offices and centres in over 42 countries. Resident representatives are also located in most of the developing countries to co-ordinate assistance efforts in the UN programmes of technical co-operation.