

Functional Commissions

In 1966, the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council held meetings, with the exception of the Population Commission. Canada was a member of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Statistical Commission and the Social Commission, and sent delegations to their respective sessions.

Statistical Commission

The Statistical Commission held its fourteenth session at the Palais des Nations in Geneva in October 1966. During this session, the Commission discussed three main topics: the problem of statistical co-ordination, the progress achieved in the revision and the extension of the UN system of national accounts and the recommendations for the 1970 world population and housing censuses. In conformity with decisions made during the thirteenth session, the Commission discussed the general problem of co-ordination of the statistical activities of the United Nations family of organizations and of the other international organizations working in the same fields. The Statistical Commission also reaffirmed its confidence in the principle of statistical specialization by Agencies, with co-ordination of world standards directed primarily to those elements of each Agency's programme which are interrelated. Members of the Commission voted unanimously for a resolution requesting the Secretary-General to consult with the Specialized Agencies and to prepare a report on the important interrelated fields of statistics for which world standards are desirable. The delegation also voted in favour of a resolution asking the Secretary-General to distribute guides for the 1970 population and housing censuses to all member states and to give technical assistance to governments in the implementation of the principles and recommendations contained in the guides. These recommendations are based primarily on the experience of countries with their 1960 censuses, supplemented by a continuous study of census methods carried out by the UN Statistical Office on the basis of material received from national statistical services. The Canadian delegation gave its strong support to this resolution, since its implementation would particularly contribute to the improvement of vital statistics systems of developing countries.

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs, which is the policy-making body for the international control of narcotic drugs, held its twenty-first session in Geneva in December. Members of the Commission are mainly countries which are producers or manufacturers of narcotics and countries in which