

member states a certain freedom of choice as to the level of their contributions. GATT is financed in accordance with the scale of contributions assessed on each country's share in the total trade of the contracting parties and participating governments. WIPO's expenses are shared among states parties to various conventions. States may also make contributions to the regular budget of the WIPO Bureau, but the financial regulations are now under review. The financial Specialized Agencies (IBRD, IDA, IFC and IMF) do not make assessments of their members.

Non-financial agencies

One of the major strengths of the UN system lies in the contributions made in their respective fields by the Specialized Agencies. As we have seen, these are separate, autonomous intergovernmental organizations, each with its own deliberative and executive bodies, secretariat and budget, but belonging to the UN family by virtue of special agreements, the co-ordinating role of the Economic and Social Council and a common system of personnel remunerations. The Agencies deal with such matters as air-safety, medical standards and research, postal services and weather-forecasting. If states are to co-operate to their common benefit in these ways, international organizations of a functional kind are indispensable. They represent the "infrastructure" of global co-operation.

The *International Labour Organization*, established by the Treaty of Versailles, and located in Geneva is one of the largest (in budgetary terms) of the Specialized Agencies. It strives to promote social justice by improving labour conditions and living standards. To achieve these ends, the ILO, in co-operation with management, labour and government, endeavours to establish minimum standards in such fields as social security, wages, hours of work, safety and workmen's compensation. The approximate size of the ILO budget for 1976 was \$73,041,000 (U.S.). In that year Canada contributed \$2,761,000 (Cdn) or 3.17 per cent. In 1977 approved expenditures are about \$87 million (U.S.).

The *Food and Agriculture Organization*, located in Rome, is one of the major Specialized Agencies. Its purpose is to raise levels of nutrition and improve production and distribution of food supplies from farms, forests and fisheries. The FAO carries out programs of technical assistance in nutrition and food-management, soil-