

Asia and the Far East, Latin America, and Africa—provide forums for exchanges of information and co-operative endeavours in matters of regional concern. Specialized Agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) participate in the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme (UNTAP). Other agencies, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), meet other specific requirements. ECOSOC receives regular reports from these various bodies and makes an annual report on its work to the General Assembly.

The Council held its 29th and 30th sessions in 1960. Canada was represented by an observer at the 29th session, which was held in New York from April 5 to April 21. The major question confronting that session was the economic development of under-developed countries. This was discussed in terms of industrialization, petroleum resources, water resources and co-operatives. Considerable attention was given to the means of intensifying and co-ordinating United Nations efforts to promote rapid industrial development and to relate it more closely to the technical assistance activities of the United Nations. The Council also reaffirmed the need for a better understanding of the problems involved in promoting the international flow of private capital.

In the social sphere, the Council in 1960 discussed a report by the Secretary-General on the progress made towards implementation of the long-range programme of concerted international action in the field of housing and related community facilities. A General Assembly resolution had asked the Council to initiate a study of capital punishment and at its 29th session the Council instructed the Secretary-General to prepare a factual review of capital punishment. The report of the Executive Board of UNICEF was also extensively considered at the same session. The Council expressed appreciation of the co-operation that the United Nations Bureau of Social Affairs, FAO and WHO extended to UNICEF and also expressed the hope that UNICEF resources would be increased to meet new and expanding needs. The 30th session of the Council also considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees which emphasized the impact made by the World Refugee Year in terms of increased financial contributions, the improved legal position of refugees, and increased resettlement opportunities. The Council also adopted a resolution reaffirming its belief in the importance of teaching the purposes, principles, structure and activities of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies in the educational institutions of member countries.

In accordance with established procedure, the 30th session of the Council undertook its annual review of the development and co-ordination of the economic, social and human rights programmes and the activities of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies as a whole. The Secretary-General