

1. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Differences of views concerning the extent of the Assembly's activities emerged in the discussions concerning its committee structure, its rules of procedure and the agenda for the first part of the First Session.

Committee Structure

Most of the work of the Assembly is done in committees, of which there are four types: main, procedural, standing and *ad hoc* committees. The main committees consider substantive matters referred to them by the plenary meetings of the General Assembly. Since every Member of the United Nations is represented on each of the main committees, they constitute, in effect, the General Assembly divided up for purposes of efficiency and economy into working groups, each dealing with a specified field of activity. Thus the Political and Security Committee considers all matters relating to international security, armaments, membership in the United Nations, and the general principles of international co-operation for the maintenance of peace and security. Similarly, the Economic and Financial Committee is concerned with any economic and financial questions before the Assembly. Six main committees were agreed upon. These are:

- (1) Political and Security Committee;
- (2) Economic and Financial Committee;
- (3) Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee;
- (4) Trusteeship Committee;
- (5) Administrative and Budgetary Committee;
- (6) Legal Committee.

In addition to the main committees, procedural committees are required to deal with the organization and conduct of business of the General Assembly. Two of these were set up: the General Committee to assist the President in drawing up the agenda, in co-ordinating the proceedings of the main committees and in conducting the work of the Assembly, and a Credentials Committee to verify the credentials of the delegates. These committees are smaller than the main committees.

Continuing problems which must of necessity be dealt with not only during the sessions of the Assembly but in the intervals between them require the establishment of standing committees. It was agreed that the General Assembly should set up two standing committees: the Advisory Committee for Administrative and Budgetary Questions to assist the main committee in examining the budget of the United Nations, and a Committee on Contributions to report to the General Assembly on the apportionment of the expenses of