

including the establishment of new regimes in relation to fisheries, pollution control, scientific research and exploration and exploitation of the seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. Canada is similarly involved in preparations for a conference on marine pollution, which will take place in October this year under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO). The purpose of this conference is to develop new measures for the prevention of pollution from ships.

On the administrative and budgetary side of the United Nations, the most important development was the agreement that the share of the maximum contributor should not be more than 25 per cent. Canada supported the United States' move for the reduction in its rate of contribution and worked to gain support for it.

We have welcomed the outcome of the negotiations which will make it possible for the Federal German Republic and the German Democratic Republic to join the United Nations. We have also supported the application of Bangladesh to join, as well as its adherence to several Specialized Agencies.

Last December, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution establishing a 35-member *ad hoc* committee on international terrorism, which will meet for the first time this summer. The Government of Canada has been invited to serve on the committee, where we intend to express the view that the Government of Canada, while believing that the underlying cause of terrorism should be studied, considers that the study should not delay the taking of immediate measures to prevent acts of international terrorism.

Since April 1971, Canada has been pressing for a new convention which would create effective international machinery for investigating, determining fault and taking "joint action" in cases where states contribute to a threat to the safety of civil aviation. Many states, for political or constitutional reasons, have been unwilling to go as far in taking joint action as provided in a Canada-U.S. draft convention. The ICAO Council, however, has decided to convene this summer, in Rome, a diplomatic conference and simultaneous extraordinary ICAO Assembly, to consider proposals involving either a new convention or amendments to the ICAO constitution, including a Nordic proposal for a new international convention, which in some respects is similar to the stronger Canada-U.S. proposal.

As Members are no doubt aware, we have signed the Canada-Cuba Hijacking Agreement, which, with its U.S.-Cuba counterpart, should serve as a potent deterrent to potential North American hijackers.

In the past year we have opened missions in Lusaka, Budapest and Atlanta, and have reopened our mission in Berlin.

One purpose of these and of most of our missions abroad is to serve the growing number of Canadian travellers. The volume of passports issued rose by 17.4 per cent in 1972 for a total of over half a million. To keep pace with the increasing demand for passports and to provide better services in the area, two new regional passport offices were opened in Edmonton and Halifax early in