

of the estimates. It was also agreed that in addition to the record of actual expenditures incurred these reports should provide an estimate of expected outlays for the rest of the year.

### Specialized Agencies

Despite considerable efforts to hold the line against further increases in the expenditures of the Specialized Agencies, the budgets of most of them continued to be higher in 1954 than in 1953. An outstanding exception was ICAO which for the second successive year was able to reduce its budget. The general rise in costs of all types in both the administrative and operational aspects of the Specialized Agencies' programmes was primarily responsible for the higher budgets. A budget increase of 15 per cent over 1953 was noted in the FAO and 4 per cent in the ITU. Although the ILO budget has become somewhat stabilized in recent years, a proposed net increase for 1954 of about \$87,800 over 1953 was made by that Agency. An average annual increase of \$81,911 has been marked by the ILO over the period 1950-54.

## Apportionment of Expenses

Further steps were taken during 1953 toward development of more equitable assessment scales<sup>1</sup> for sharing the financial costs of membership in the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies.

### United Nations

In its report to the eighth session of the General Assembly, the expert ten-member Standing Committee on Contributions continued its policy for the progressive removal of maladjustments in the United Nations scale of assessment.

The recommendations made by the Contributions Committee were also designed to implement the following directives outlined by the General Assembly during the seventh session:

- (1) To continue to give additional recognition to countries with low per capita income;
- (2) To defer further action on the per capita ceiling until new members are admitted or substantial improvement in the economic capacity of existing members permits the adjustments to be gradually absorbed in the assessment scale; and
- (3) To provide that from January 1, 1954 the assessment of the largest contributor should not exceed one-third of the total assessment against members.

Implementation of these directives led the Contributions Committee to recommend a scale in which:

- (1) The United States assessment would be reduced by 1.79 per cent to 33 1/3 per cent;
- (2) The assessment of the U.S.S.R. would be raised by 1.78 per cent and those of other Eastern European countries (except Czechoslovakia) would be raised fractionally;

<sup>1</sup>For a comparison of the percentage scale of contributions from the main contributors to the United Nations and to six principal Specialized Agencies, see Appendix V.