

countries and its functions under the responsibility of the General Assembly acting through the Technical Assistance Committee of ECOSOC. At its 26th session ECOSOC approved a resolution, co-sponsored by Canada, providing for the participation of the International Atomic Energy Agency in the EPTA.

The programmes of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies are formulated on the basis of requests by countries for technical assistance, within financial ceilings set by the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) which consists of representatives of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and of the heads of Specialized Agencies. The TAB has local representatives in a number of member countries. It is responsible for co-ordinating the annual programmes of each of the organizations concerned in each country. The TAB programme is considered and approved by the Technical Assistance Committee, which consists of the eighteen countries represented on ECOSOC together with six additional members elected from among members of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies.

In 1958 voluntary contributions to the EPTA were received from eighty-four participating governments and amounted to nearly \$31 million. Recipient governments provided an additional amount of \$2.2 million in the form of payments toward local costs and also incurred expenses of more than double the size of the direct expenses of the Expanded Programme in ancillary projects designed to contribute to the effectiveness of projects undertaken under the EPTA. By the end of 1957 well over 19,000 experts had been employed under the assistance programmes of the United Nations, and over 4,000 fellowships had been awarded for training courses. Although three-quarters of the experts were recruited in Europe and North America, the co-operative character of this phase of the technical assistance programme was clearly shown by the increasing extent to which recipient countries tended, at the same time, to contribute the services of their own experts. India, for instance, received 137 experts in 1957, but also contributed 100 of its own specialists for assignment to other countries. In his annual report¹ for 1957 on multilateral technical assistance programmes the Secretary-General of the United Nations noted that, while improvements had been achieved, the financial resources available for carrying out these programmes remained inadequate.

At its thirteenth session (agenda item 29) the General Assembly expressed concern over the possibility that contributions pledged to the EPTA for 1959 might not be sufficient to allow for any expansion in the programme and expressed the hope that a moderately higher level of operations might be achieved in 1959. The Canadian Representatives in the Second Committee of the General Assembly, recalling Canada's firm support for the technical assistance programmes of the United Nations, welcomed the fact "that despite limited financial means qualitative as well as quantitative progress could be recorded". In the course of the thirteenth session the General Assembly adopted several resolutions recommending in particular that member governments continue to co-operate in the matter of technical assistance through the United Nations and through other multilateral and bilateral programmes, and emphasizing the desirability for less developed countries of establishing national or regional training centres and the importance of using fellowships as a means of assisting national development.

The General Assembly also agreed to a proposal by the Secretary-General for extending the coverage of technical assistance into the field of

¹United Nations Document E3175 of July 30, 1958.