

ments¹. In addition, the General Assembly and also ECOSOC give considerable attention to these problems of international trade and primary commodities. As a major producing and trading country, Canada takes an active interest in these activities and during 1956 Canadian Delegations participated in the discussions of these subjects at the eleventh session of the General Assembly and the twenty-second session of ECOSOC. Canada is a member of the Commission on International Commodity Trade and of the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems and sent representatives to their 1956 meetings.

In the discussion of international commodity problems at the twenty-second session of ECOSOC, the Canadian Delegation joined with other countries in recognizing the serious difficulties which violent fluctuations of commodity prices posed for under-developed primary producing countries. The Delegation spoke in favour of a commodity-by-commodity approach to these difficulties, with consideration being given to the conclusion of further international commodity agreements in cases where the main producers and consumers were willing to participate and accept the necessary responsibilities. It was pointed out that Canada participated in agreements relating to international trade in wheat, sugar and tin and was willing to join in discussions for agreements on other commodities.

There was considerable discussion at the ECOSOC meeting, and again at the eleventh session of the General Assembly, of United Nations machinery for trade co-operation. However, the twenty-second session of ECOSOC rejected a U.S.S.R. proposal aimed at setting up a new international trade organization, but it adopted a resolution inviting member countries to submit to the Secretary-General their comments on the present international machinery for trade co-operation, and requested the Secretary-General to analyze the replies and table a report for study at the twenty-fourth ECOSOC session. Another resolution was adopted recommending that governments take into account the effects of their trade and production policies on other economies, and recognize especially the importance of their trade and production policies for under-developed countries. It was also decided at the twenty-second session that the Commission on International Commodity Trade and the Interim Co-ordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements should continue to perform their present functions, and that these bodies, together with the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems, should submit to the Secretary-General their views on the present organizational and procedural arrangements governing their activities.

At the eleventh session of the General Assembly there was a further study and discussion of international machinery for trade co-operation. The U.S.S.R. again submitted its suggestion for the creation of a new international trade organization within the United Nations, this time including it in a proposal to convene a world economic conference in 1957. The Canadian Delegation joined with others in opposing this proposal, pointing to the accomplishments of existing international machinery, to the fact that this machinery had shown itself capable of being adapted to meet new situations, and to the fact that the establishment of new machinery is not always the

¹A Committee of four members established to organize international conferences and study groups, and to co-ordinate United Nations activities in the field of commodity problems.