

## Special Committee

The present FRB fleet numbers 15. Only three vessels are over 100 feet in length and are truly ocean-going ships. The remainder are limited to operations in fair weather and inshore waters. Six additional large vessels are planned for construction in the next ten years. An additional need is also foreseen for inshore vessels and submersible vehicles.

Capital costs for a phased program of water laboratory and research vessel construction, and acquisition of capital equipment, will require an average annual expenditure of about \$10 million for many years to :

- (a) replace old, crowded, out-dated laboratories and research vessels;
- (b) add offshore research vessels for biological research and fishing efficiency studies;
- (c) add water laboratory facilities for the fish behaviour and physiology research necessary to understand anti-pollution, resource distribution, harvesting, resource enhancement, and product quality problems;
- (d) add better scientific equipment for increasingly more detailed research.

These facilities are needed to satisfy the expanding responsibilities for federal fisheries research, and to meet the needs of selected universities for expensive research vessels and water laboratory facilities which academic institutions find costly and difficult to manage.

A detailed capital submission has already been approved in principle by the Treasury Board. Table II (page 25) summarizes this approved capital program and brings up to date the capital requirements forecast as necessary to execute the full scope of FRB planning for the next decade.