

In this situation, the Board turned its attention to a number of other subjects that had been on its agenda for some time. Among the more important items were a proposal for the creation of institutional machinery for the study of problems connected with the transfer of technology from developed to developing countries. A second subject of considerable importance to both developed and developing countries was the consideration of a draft resolution on commodity pricing policy and the access of commodities from the developing countries to the markets of the developed countries.

### **Intergovernmental Group on Transfer of Technology**

The most important achievement of the tenth session was the creation of an intergovernmental group on the transfer of technology. The discussion preceding this decision reflected a unity of view on the desirability of increasing the flow of technology to developing countries, but there was a spectrum of views on the contribution which UNCTAD could make to this end. On the one hand, there was the question of duplication of the work of other United Nations bodies; there was early agreement that this should be avoided. On the other hand, some delegations, particularly those from the developed countries, questioned whether the types of technology that could be absorbed by the developing countries were not, in practice, available to them now. There was sufficient uncertainty concerning this latter point, however, to permit all delegations to support the creation of an intergovernmental group to study the matter and report back to the Board after two substantive sessions.

In the process of coming to this decision, the role of UNCTAD in the field of the transfer of technology was clarified and limited to problems related to its terms of reference as a whole.

### **Commodity Problems and Policies**

Another important achievement of the tenth session was the passing of a resolution on pricing and access principles in the commodities field. Here the problem was to determine the principles that would provide for the encouragement of commodity imports into the developed countries while avoiding the undermining of non-discriminatory trading policies aimed at encouraging the most effective and economic organization of individual commodity markets.

The resolution as accepted outlined objectives and principles to serve as general guidelines for governments and competent institutions in deciding policies affecting commodities of special export interest to developing countries.

### **Other Matters Discussed**

The tenth session passed two resolutions that dealt with problems relating to some of the developing countries. The first, concerning the problems of landlocked countries, dealt with certain aspects of the difficulties some of those countries experienced in developing their trading relations with the rest