

Intergovernmental agencies

and came into force in January 1969. One section of it obligates each country to submit a report recording its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination. The *United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination* has, since mid-1969, held a number of meetings to examine the reports received and to ensure that they provide complete and satisfactory information. For 1978, Canada contributed about \$5,000 (Cdn) to help the Committee meet its expenses.

Canada frequently provides exceptional assistance to emergency relief operations or to meet other one-time needs. Recent examples are Canadian aid to victims of the Turkish and Romanian earthquakes (\$100,000 (Cdn) in each case through the International Committee of the Red Cross) and the civil war in Lebanon (\$1 million (Cdn) contributed or pledged to the International Committee of the Red Cross, and \$100,000 (Cdn) to the special appeal of the Secretary-General of the UN). These figures do not include such costs as those absorbed by the Department of National Defence for relief flights, which are regarded by Canada as urgent and necessary expenditures vital to rendering a solution to the crisis of the moment.

The Canadian Government's contributions and assessments to finance the United Nations and its related bodies reported in this paper do not include donations by individual citizens and private groups in Canada. In some cases, such as UNICEF and UNRWA, these represent substantial sums.

Much of the United Nations work to improve economic and social conditions is carried out by intergovernmental agencies that are separate, autonomous organizations associated with the United Nations by special-relationship agreements. The Specialized Agencies have their own deliberative and executive bodies, secretariats and budgets. Their work, except for that of the International Atomic Energy Agency, is co-ordinated through the machinery of the Economic and Social Council, and all — except the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade — act as executing agencies for development projects by the UNDP.

Agreement with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to convert this UN program into a Specialized Agency was reached April 8, 1979. Ratification of the agreement is pending.

Contributions to finance the intergovernmental agencies are separate from payments to the United Nations regular budget. Several agencies (FAO, ILO, UNESCO, WHO) fix their scales of assessments for the apportionment of their expenses in accordance with principles similar to those applied in setting the United Nations scale. Other agencies are based in part on the United Nations scale and in part on the degree of interest in and use of the services provided (IMCO, ICAO). The IAEA's assessments are based on a modification of the United Nations scale. The ITU and UPU give member states a certain freedom of choice as to the level of their contributions. GATT is financed in accordance with the scale of contributions assessed on