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### SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

#### Introduction

Canada is a member of all twelve of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations. These agencies are bodies with wide international responsibilities in economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related fields which were established by inter-governmental agreement and brought into relationship with the United Nations at the time of its establishment, or subsequently, in order to carry out the aims of the Charter. Chapter IX of the Charter provides, in part, that member states shall work for the "conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations", by undertaking to promote "higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development; solution of international economic, social, health and related problems, and international cultural and economic co-operation".

Canada is also a member of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) established in 1957 which, while not a Specialized Agency, has entered into an agreement with the United Nations and occupies a position comparable to that of the Specialized Agencies.

Co-ordination of the activities of the Specialized Agencies is promoted by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination established by the Economic and Social Council. The Committee is composed of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the executive heads of the Specialized Agencies and the Director-General of the IAEA: it considers not only administrative questions common to the Specialized Agencies, but planned projects on problems of special urgency to be undertaken jointly by several agencies.

#### International Labour Organization

The International Labour Organization (ILO) was established in 1919 at the Paris Peace Conference. Originally associated with the League of Nations, it became in 1946 one of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations. Through its tripartite structure, a feature unique among the Specialized Agencies, it brings together representatives of governments, employers and workers from the 80 member states to participate in determining ILO activities and policies. It functions through three main organs: the annual International Labour Conference, which is the policy-making body of the Organization, the Governing Body which is the executive council, and the International Labour Office in Geneva, which is the permanent secretariat of the ILO, headed by a Director-General appointed by the Governing Body. The Office has branches in Ottawa and other cities throughout the world, and field offices for operational activities. Besides these three principal organs, the ILO functions through various subsidiary bodies such as regional conferences, tripartite industrial committees and committees of experts.