

VI FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Introduction

An item of major importance affecting the financing and administration of the United Nations and its ten Specialized Agencies is that of administrative and budgetary co-ordination between them.

Under their agreements with the United Nations, all of the Specialized Agencies, with the exception of the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund, are required to submit their budgets for examination by the United Nations. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions first examines these budgets and then presents a report on them to each session of the General Assembly. This Committee has repeatedly suggested that a comprehensive financial appraisal be made of the activities of the United Nations and of the eight Specialized Agencies¹ through inter-governmental discussions. It has also suggested that governments of member states should work for an increasing degree of co-ordination at the national level and should strive to follow similar policies in the various agencies of which they are members.

At the General Assembly's tenth session in 1955 the Canadian Delegation proposed that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions make its services available to the Specialized Agencies; the latter accepted the proposal and the Advisory Committee has already done some useful work of co-ordination with them. Following up this good beginning, the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee, on February 27, 1957, adopted a resolution inviting the attention of the Specialized Agencies to the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee and requesting ECOSOC to study certain points raised in that report.

Administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the various United Nations bodies is a subject of continuing importance, and with the normal expansion of United Nations duties and services it will take on even greater significance; the Canadian Delegation will endorse and promote this principle on every appropriate occasion.

Examination of the Budgets

United Nations budget appropriations for 1956 were \$48.56 million, and for 1957 were \$50.81 million including supplementary estimates of \$2.01 million. Canada's assessment amounted to \$1.6 million for 1956 and \$1.21 million for 1957.

¹FAO, ICAO, ILO, ITU, UNESCO, UPU, WHO, WMO.