

out 1976 and, in particular, during the June and December sessions of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF). As a temporary measure for 1977, the Canadian authorities agreed to apply as Canadian regulations those measures adopted by ICNAF with Canada's concurrence, including those on allowable catches in Canadian waters off the Atlantic Coast. These quotas generally correspond to those that would have been set by the Canadian authorities if the 200-mile fishing zone had already been established when the ICNAF meeting took place. The catches allowed by Canada off the West Coast were established following consultations with the countries concerned — Japan, the U.S.S.R., South Korea and Poland.

Since there are no accepted maritime boundaries with the United States or France (round the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon), negotiations were begun with these two countries to establish an interim regime in order to avoid conflicts regarding fisheries regulations in boundary areas and to pursue, in the best possible atmosphere, the study of long-term arrangements for their fishing operations.

During his official visit to France in November 1976, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson, met with the French Minister of Foreign Affairs. Following their discussions and subsequent negotiations between French and Canadian fisheries officials, an agreement was reached on interim arrangements based on a special regime of mutual restraint in the reciprocal application of fishing regulations in a specified ICNAF area adjacent to the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

As negotiations were still going on with American officials at the end of 1976, the Canadian Government decided, in order not to interfere with them, to waive licensing requirements for American fishing vessels until a temporary fishing agreement had been reached between the two countries.

Towards the end of 1976, several sessions of bilateral consultations took place with all the fishing nations operating off Canada's

coasts for the purpose of familiarizing them with the new Canadian regulations applicable to their continued activities in Canada's 200-mile fisheries zone and with the methods of licensing their fishing vessels for part of the stocks that were beyond Canada's capacity to harvest. It is obvious that, initially at least, these countries will have to reduce their fishing operations greatly in the new zone in order to allow the fish stocks to be replenished and to increase their long-term yield for the benefit of all concerned.

International economic law

In 1976, the impetus given to the "New International Economic Order" during 1974 and 1975 resulted in far greater emphasis on the "dialogue" between North and South, which included the multilateral trade negotiations, the Conference on International Economic Co-operation, and the work of the World Bank, the International Development Association and the International Monetary Fund and the fourth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. As it was the first major international conference on trade and development since the seventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly, UNCTAD IV had to provide a legal framework for the formulation of a "New International Economic Order" by means of the resolutions it adopted.

Regarding the transfer of technology, the conference decided to establish an international group of experts within UNCTAD to draft a code of conduct, which would be completed about the middle of 1977 and would be the subject of a United Nations conference at the end of that year. No decision was reached, however, on whether or not this code would be legally binding. This would undoubtedly be a determining factor for the developing countries, which see the code as a tool for eliminating the economic disparities between nations and contributing to their economic and social development.

On the matter of intellectual and industrial property, UNCTAD IV reiterated the need for member countries to accept the decla-