
Reservations were also made regarding those parts of the "Program of Action" which ran counter to the spirit of consumer-producer co-operation—co-operation deemed essential by Canada to the solution of the grave problems posed by the widespread economic crisis.

Conferences

In 1974 three important conferences took place. The first of these, the Law of the Sea Conference in Caracas, is dealt with in the section of this *Review* concerning international law.

Bucharest, Romania, was the site of the World Population Conference in August. A major result of this gathering was the decision taken by delegates representing 135 countries to emphasize the interrelations among population and other social and economic factors through integration of population policies in broadly-based development plans. This approach contrasts with the policy which had heretofore been widely accepted of emphasizing family planning and population control as the solution to the problem. The hope is that closer integration of population planning and developmental planning will, through linkages, increase the effectiveness of both.

The conference also underlined the importance of the status of women in formulating and implementing plans to effect changes in population growth.

A major accomplishment at Bucharest was to increase global awareness of population problems. In Canada, for example, hopes rose that increased attention would be given to developing a population policy for this country.

The third major gathering, the World Food Conference, took place in Rome in November. The Canadian delegation was led by Mr. MacEachen and the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Whelan—evidence of the importance Canada attached to the discussions.

An important outcome was the

establishment of the World Food Council. The Council is charged with the development of a world food strategy under which existing and future food resources can be more efficiently utilized.

At the Rome meeting Canada was among the countries prepared to make a specific response to the food crisis. With its pledge to supply an average of 1 million tons of grain annually over a three-year period as well as to increase non-grain food aid and to provide an additional \$50 million in food and fertilizers in 1974, Canada gave positive evidence of its readiness to take a major role in easing the world food situation.

Throughout the conference the Canadian delegation emphasised the key role of the producer in ensuring an adequate world food supply. It pointed out further that environmental considerations will have to be respected if short-term gains in that supply are not to be offset by long-term losses.

Specialized Agencies

Canada in 1974 played an active role in the work of the UN Specialized Agencies, bodies which serve as the executing agencies of the UN Development Program. Much of their work has gone unheralded, perhaps because a large part of their activities has been in continuing programs of economic, social and technical co-operation and developmental assistance. These are areas where "breakthroughs" are not always apparent to the public at large. A brief summary of a few of Canada's activities in this field in 1974 is set out below.

A Canadian, Dr. D. G. Chapman, was elected to serve as chairman of the Codex Alimentarius Commission for 1975. The Commission is a joint FAO-WHO body which deals with food standards and has been attempting to develop a uniform international set of food standards.

Canada pledged \$3.5 million to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) for 1975-76. This was \$1 million more than its 1974-75