

the United Nations be requested to give help by establishing or developing preliminary training schools to prepare students for subsequent technical training.

The introduction into commercial service of supersonic aircraft is one of the more important problems facing ICAO. On the basis of a report entitled *Review of the Economic Situation of Air Transport*, the Assembly asked the Organization to press forward with its studies in this field and to issue periodic reports.

The Assembly examined progress made in providing international civil aviation with adequate facilities and services to meet the increasingly exacting requirements brought about by high-performance aircraft and a great expansion in traffic. The current policy of isolating serious deficiencies and helping states to eliminate them is to be continued. The Assembly also pointed out the need for both "user" and "provider" states to give serious consideration to the economic justification of projected air-navigation facilities and services, and the Council was asked to assist states in their consideration and evaluation of the economic and financial aspects of regional plans.

Trend Forecasting

One of the functions of the ICAO Council in the economic field is to forecast developments likely to require action by the Organization. Contracting states also need global and regional forecasts of civil-aviation developments. The Assembly therefore requested the Council to prepare and maintain long and medium term forecasts of trends and developments in civil aviation of both a general and a specific nature, including, when possible, regional as well as world-wide data, and to make these available to members of the Organization.

The Assembly decided that ICAO should undertake studies to further the development of international air-passenger travel. These studies are to be conducted on a world-wide basis or by regions, priority being given to regional studies to meet the particular needs of developing nations, with the first to be applied to Africa.

The Assembly found that the state of implementation of the ICAO air-navigation plan in a number of regions left much to be desired. The Council was therefore directed to improve the guidance it provided for regional air-navigation meetings in respect of both planning and implementation.

Only Serious Political Issue

The question of South Africa's continued membership in ICAO was the only serious political issue raised at the Assembly. The African members sponsored a resolution to amend the Convention to provide for the suspension or exclusion from membership of any contracting state "whose government violates the principles laid down in the Preamble to this Convention and practises a policy of *apartheid* and racial discrimination". In the Canadian view, this resolution dealt with a political issue, which should be treated in those organs of the United Nations concerned with political matters and not in a specialized body such as ICAO.