

Furnishing adequate information in response to inquiries will be an important part of the service of disseminating information. Partly for this reason and partly for other uses the Organization will have an extensive and up to date library.

FAO's advisory functions will include making recommendations ranging from a suggestion on some minor point to drawing up and submitting for approval an elaborate program of action on a complex problem; and from advice given to a single member nation to advice given to all the member nations.

The effectiveness of advice and recommendations depends on the qualifications of those who give them. With a staff equipped with a wide range of qualifications and experience, the Organization will be in a position to take the initiative in making recommendations designed to stimulate both individual and co-ordinated action. An example of the sort of undertaking it might suggest is a world agricultural census.

FAO will be concerned also with agricultural credit and commodity arrangements. Obviously the basic purposes of the Organization will not be achieved unless international credit for agricultural products is made available on a considerable scale. The Interim Commission recommends that a single international authority be established to administer international credit and that FAO be recognized as a complementary body with specific functions with respect to agricultural credit. Credit will be needed for such agricultural development, as, for example, the re-equipment of agriculture, mechanization, land reclamation, irrigation, afforestation, increased storage, processing and marketing facilities.

FAO feels that commodity arrangements can have an important part in co-ordinating conflicting national price and marketing policies, in eliminating excessive fluctuations in prices, in mitigating some of the effects of trade cycles, in maintaining supplies for consumers and ensuring markets for producers. The commission suggests that an international conference be called, in which FAO would participate, to formulate principles to which all commodity arrangements should conform.

If the commission's proposals concerning international authorities for agricultural credit and commodity arrangements are not carried out or are unduly delayed, it proposes that FAO should ask the member nations to make suitable arrangements in these matters in the agricultural field alone, with FAO undertaking the administrative work.

In addition to all these activities, the commission suggests certain administrative functions which FAO might undertake. These include the administration of international agreements, the performance of such services as organizing the control of insect plagues or noxious weeds; the expenditure of part of its funds to establish fellowships, to carry out research projects, to found research institutes or to make grants-in-aid for other purposes; and the administration of gifts or endowments to further its work. In all its activities FAO should make the fullest use of the facilities and resources of other organizations to achieve its purposes. It might consider or make proposals for the distribution on special terms of surplus stocks of agricultural products to peoples whose consumption is low. It might have functions to perform in connection with rehabilitation work that may need to be continued beyond the life of UNRRA. In co-operation with other international bodies it might help to procure and distribute food and other supplies to relieve famine resulting from floods, drought, earthquakes or other calamities.

All such responsibilities the constitution permits FAO to assume at the appropriate time.

#### Administrative Set-Up

The policy-making body of FAO is a conference composed of one representative from each member nation. The conference will meet at least once a year, and each nation will have one vote.