

sea and law governing air piracy." On some of these objectives a degree of progress was achieved. The recommendations of the Stockholm conference on the environment were incorporated into the United Nations new environment programme virtually unchanged. Constructive steps were taken to prepare for the holding of a conference on the Law of the Sea in 1974, and further progress was made to improve the administration of the organization.

The major disappointment of the session from the Canadian viewpoint was in the handling of the terrorism issue. Canada supported Secretary-General Waldheim's initiative in inscribing this item on the agenda and worked actively for the adoption of effective measures against international terrorism as a matter of the highest priority. These efforts were clouded over by political controversy regarding the Middle East and African independence movements, and as a result the whole problem was referred to an *ad hoc* committee. While no concrete steps were taken, a forum has been provided in which Canada can continue to press for effective action to deal with this urgent matter. In other areas of concern, notably in the political and security fields, few real advances were made. However, given the potentially explosive nature of several of these items, the maintenance of a generally calm and orderly debate of the issues might be viewed as an accomplishment in itself.

Environmental Programmes

Canada's deep interest in environmental problems was expressed through active and fruitful participation in the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in June. The proclamation of the Declaration on the Human Environment and the adoption of a United Nations action plan are of vital concern and embody many Canadian proposals to protect and enhance the quality of the environment. In achieving its major objective the conference broke new ground in international law by adopting Principle 21 of the Declaration, based in part on a Canadian proposal regarding the principle of state responsibility for extra-territorial environmental damage. Also of long-term significance is the Canadian recommenda-

tion, adopted in Stockholm, relating to control of the discharge of pollutants into the oceans. Among other noteworthy Canadian contributions to the conference was the offer (since accepted by the United Nations General Assembly) to be host to a major United Nations Conference/Exposition on Human Settlements, scheduled to take place in Vancouver during 1976. At the General Assembly, which noted with satisfaction the results of the Stockholm Conference, Canada endorsed the establishment of a voluntary United Nations Environment Fund and offered a 5-year contribution of \$5 million to \$7.5 million. Canada also reaffirmed its willingness to increase and adjust its foreign air programme to assist in developing countries with the inclusion of environmental concerns in development planning. Mr. Maurice Strong, a Canadian, was elected by the Assembly as the first Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

Building on the Stockholm Conference, an international conference held in London in October/November succeeded in formulating a Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by the dumping of waste and other matter. This convention has been signed by Canada. Among other important legal concepts, it posits the general duty of states to prevent marine pollution and clearly recognizes the obligation of states to consult before the dumping of prohibited substances in the event of an emergency. The inclusion of both these principles was strongly promoted by Canada.

Economic and social questions

In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly had voted to enlarge the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the major UN organ concerned with economic and social questions, from 27 to 54 members. Following its foreign policy objective of ensuring that "national and international machinery are adequate to meet the challenges of economic and social development", Canada actively supported the enlargement of the Council to make it more representative of the UN membership. Accordingly, on September 28, Canada ratified the amendment to Article 61 of the Charter allowing for such enlargement which can take place