

# IV

## SELECTED COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### *Atomic Radiation Committee*

The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation was created by the General Assembly in 1955 to study and report on the levels and effects of atomic radiation. It held its fifteenth session in Geneva in November. At its twentieth session, the General Assembly unanimously adopted a Canadian-sponsored resolution which, among other matters, confirmed the Assembly's continuing interest in the hazards of atomic radiation and commended the Committee for its valuable contribution to a wider knowledge and understanding of the effects and levels of atomic radiation. The Committee was requested to carry on with its programme, including its consideration of a report for the twenty-first session on natural radiation sources, radioactive contamination of the environment and certain biological effects of ionizing radiation.

As an active member of the Committee since its inception, Canada continues to be concerned about the hazards of atomic radiation. In its extensive fall-out monitoring programme, Canada has a number of collection stations which provide information taken from air, milk, water, soil and human bone samples for transmission to interested recipients, including the Committee, which uses the data for its world-wide fall-out studies.

### *Disarmament Commission*<sup>1</sup>

Following general acceptance of a Soviet proposal for its reconvening, the Disarmament Commission, which is composed of all members of the United Nations, met in New York from April to June for the first time in five years. Since the nineteenth session of the Assembly had not been able to consider

<sup>1</sup>See also Page 15 for the disarmament debate in the First Committee and references to the work of the ENDC.