

The Commission held its sixteenth session in Geneva from May to July 1964, during which, aside from attention to purely formal matters, two major substantive decisions were made in the adoption of the third and final part of a series of draft articles on the Law of Treaties and the adoption of 16 draft articles on the Despatch of Temporary Envoys on Special Missions. The articles on the Law of Treaties, with the applications, effects and interpretation of treaties, were referred to governments for their observations. In the light of the replies received, they will then be reconsidered by the Commission at its eighteenth session, scheduled to begin in May 1966. The two earlier reports which the Commission had considered dealt with the conclusion, entry into force and registration of treaties and with the invalidity and termination of treaties.

The 16 draft articles on Special Missions covered only the first part of the subject and, in particular, the establishment, operation and termination of Special Missions. The second part of the project, concerning the privileges and immunities of Special Missions and their members, is to be dealt with at a subsequent session.

The sixteenth session also considered its programme of work and the organization of its future sessions. In this regard, it indicated that it hoped to complete the study of the Law of Treaties and of Special Missions before 1966 and then to give priority to its work on relations between states and inter-governmental organizations, on which it has begun a preliminary study. The Commission also expressed its belief that, by 1966, it would be essential for it to have a four-week winter session in order to provide the minimum time necessary for completion of the heavy programme of work it would then have to deal with.

### **Outer Space**

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space was established in 1958 by the General Assembly and reconstituted in 1961 to review the area of international co-operation in this field, to examine the possibility of outer-space programmes being undertaken under United Nations auspices and to study the nature of legal problems that might arise from the exploration of outer space. Canada has been a member since the Committee was set up.

The Committee held its sixth session in October and November 1964 and, in its report, made several recommendations concerning the exchange of information, the convening in 1967 of an international conference on outer space, the encouragement of international programmes in space com-