

pollution, fishing, and seabed mining in the fully international waters beyond the coastal economic zone.

The United States has tried to assume a role of world leadership in the conference since 1970, when it proposed a draft treaty for discussion. The draft, in the words of one expert, represented what was thought then to be "the best possible deal" for the developing countries, which constitute a majority of nations. Some of the provisions that were regarded as benefiting these nations, and thus came to be characterized as "internationalist," included two U.S. proposals: one, for a strong organization to control the international seas; and so-called revenue-sharing proposals that would spread the income from ocean activities among all nations. The draft treaty also tried to minimize coastal state control over the offshore economic areas—thus giving other nations more access to them—through a complicated "trusteeship" arrangement that has since been dropped.

Since 1970, these so-called internationalist proposals have been gradually eroded by the twin forces of militant nationalism among the developing countries—many of which are coastal states—and bickering among affected U.S. industries and government agencies.

The current Treasury-inspired economic reviews are part of this ongoing evolution, and ultimately they could help kill some of the remaining "internationalist" U.S. positions. For one thing, the reviews are reconsidering the feasibility of international revenue sharing. For another, they include the question of whether a strong international organization supervising development of seabed minerals is in the U.S. economic interest. Questions like these, coming only a matter of months before the Caracas meeting, have clearly angered veteran officials who are dealing with the U.S. role in the conference. "I think they're grossly incompetent and ill-informed," one official said of some Treasury reviewers. "They really didn't understand the kinds of things that went on in the last 3 years. When they jumped in, it turned into an education program for Treasury."

But other sources say that, in all the years of preparation, the government has never taken a hard look at the economic impact of the proposals of the United States and of other countries. Such a review, they say, is needed, especially in view of the energy

situation. "We're looking at questions which just haven't been asked," said one official. "Let's face it. The world is not the same as it was in 1970."

According to sources both in and out of the Treasury, Shultz, Simon, and deputy assistant secretary Howard Worthington became aware in March of the possible economic problems that could arise from the Law of the Sea conference. They then succeeded in obtaining a place on the key steering group for the U.S. delegation, the executive committee of the 100-man

Interagency Task Force on the Law of the Sea. The one Treasury lawyer who had been working with the big task force was reassigned to other, unrelated duties. Treasury then appointed four economists to work full time on Law of the Sea, and three administrators to work part time.

The reviews themselves were ordered as a result of an early summer meeting of the committee that arbitrates interagency disputes on Law of the Sea matters, the Undersecretaries' Committee of the National Security Coun-

OTA Staffs Up

The Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), formed as an advisory agency for Congress, is getting itself organized. Former Congressman Emilio Q. Daddario, who chaired a House subcommittee on science, research, and development for 7 years, was appointed director of the OTA in November (*Science*, 30 November 1973). The appointment of Daniel V. De Simone as OTA deputy director was announced a month later. De Simone, an electrical engineer and lawyer, was assistant to the director of the now-defunct Office of Science and Technology. Ellis R. Mottur, a principal staffer on science and environment for Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), has been appointed assistant director.

Kennedy is now chairman of the Technology Assessment Board, which oversees OTA activities. The board consists of six senators, six representatives, and Daddario as an ex officio member. Representative Charles A. Mosher (R-Ohio) has now been chosen vice-chairman of the board. According to the law that established OTA, chairmanship of the board changes from one House to the other at the end of each Congress. Therefore, when Kennedy's term as chairman expires in January 1975, Mosher would become the new chairman.

The 12 members of the Technology Assessment Advisory Council have been approved by the board. The first meeting of the council is scheduled for 24 January, at which time a chairman will be elected. The council will perform much the same function with respect to OTA as the President's Science Advisory Committee did with the old Office of Science and Technology. Council members are as follows:

Harold Brown, president, California Institute of Technology; former Secretary of the Air Force

J. Fred Bucy, physicist and electronics engineer, executive vice-president, Texas Instruments, Inc.

Hazel Henderson, author, lecturer, and environmentalist, Princeton, N.J.
J. M. Leathers, executive vice-president, Dow Chemical Corp.

John McAlister, Jr., political scientist, associate professor, engineering-economic systems department, Stanford University

Eugene P. Odum, director, Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia; member, National Academy of Sciences

Frederick C. Robbins, dean, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine; Nobel laureate in medicine, 1954

Jerome B. Wiesner, president, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; science adviser to President Kennedy

Edward Wenk, Jr., professor of engineering and public affairs, University of Washington; chairman, Committee on Science and Public Policy, National Academy of Engineering

Gilbert F. White, director, Institute of Behavioral Sciences, University of Colorado; former president, Haverford College

Ex officio members are Lester S. Jayson, director, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, and Elmer B. Staats, Comptroller General.

—SCHERRAINE B. MACK