

of a service for peaceful nuclear explosions. The most contentious resolution endorsed the decisions of the CNNWS; requested the Secretary-General to transmit its resolutions to governments and United Nations agencies; asked him to submit a comprehensive report on implementation of the results of the CNNWS, including the possibility of convening the UN Disarmament Commission (which is identical in composition to the membership of the United Nations), and of further international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy; and instructed the Secretary-General to have a report prepared on the economic and scientific benefits of "nuclear technology" to developing countries. Canada abstained on this resolution, which did not appear to take into account the provisions of the NPT and which duplicated some aspects of an IAEA study which is already in progress.

In the field of chemical and biological warfare (CBW), the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report with the assistance of qualified experts on the consequences of the use of chemical and biological weapons. Canada co-sponsored the resolution authorizing the study and, at the invitation of the Secretary-General, designated an expert to assist in its preparation.

The Assembly also established a permanent committee on the peaceful uses of the sea-bed to succeed the ad hoc committee created by the twenty-second Assembly. The ad hoc committee had held three sessions during the summer, devoted almost exclusively to the legal aspects of the question, but the terms of reference of the new committee, of which Canada is a member, refer to the disarmament implications and note that these will also be discussed by the ENDC.

The Commonwealth

While the Commonwealth association is troubled by a number of intractable political disputes (discussed under the relevant area divisions), it continued, during 1968, to seek new areas of co-operation in order to develop its full potential as a multi-racial force in world affairs. During the past year, six important conferences were held at which the Canadian Government was represented: the fourth Commonwealth Education Conference, in Lagos, in February; the seventh Commonwealth Broadcasting Conference, in Wellington, in February and March; the second Commonwealth Medical Conference, in Kampala, in September; the Commonwealth finance ministers' meeting, in London, in September; the Commonwealth Conference on the Teaching of Mathematics in Schools, in Port-of-Spain, in September; and the fifth meeting of the Commonwealth Scientific Committee, in Karachi, in November. These conferences provided means for continuing existing consultation and also sought to develop new areas of co-operation between members of the Commonwealth.

On gaining independence in 1968, two new members joined the Commonwealth -- Mauritius and Swaziland, bringing the present membership to 28. These are Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Ghana, Malaysia, Nigeria, Cyprus, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Kenya, Malawi, Malta, Zambia, the Gambia, Singapore, Guyana, Botswana, Lesotho, Barbados