

individual and the minority groups have become more important. They have become protected under domestic law, particularly under the laws of democratic states. We must hope that in the future protection under domestic law may be reinforced by international convention and international law. This Convention is designed to do just that. Up to the present these rights have not been protected as a matter of international law and I hope this Convention will at least be helpful in that essential process."

Consistent with the attitude Canada has taken in previous sessions of the General Assembly, we will vote in favour of the joint draft resolution, sponsored by Cuba, France, Haiti, Liberia, Panama and Uruguay (Document A/C.6/L.300), which will call upon states which have not yet signed or ratified this Convention to do so and also requests the Secretary-General to continue to take the necessary measures designed to ensure the widest possible diffusion of the nature, contents, and purposes of the Convention.

(Note: On October 8, 1953, the Sixth Committee adopted by a vote of 44 votes in favour (including Canada) none against and six abstentions, the six power resolution referred to above. In the resolution the Committee reiterated its appeal to states to accelerate their ratifications of or accessions to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. In this resolution it also requested the Secretary-General to continue taking all necessary measures for the widest possible publicity of the nature, contents and purposes of the Convention.

