

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
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REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Statement made by the Hon. Roch Pinard during the General Debate in the United Nations General Assembly in New York on December 5, 1956.

Mr. President, in the brief but turbulent history of the United Nations, there was surely never a time when we stood in more obvious need of the humane and objective viewpoint represented, if I may say so, Mr. President, by your own qualities of calm intelligence and broad understanding. The Assembly is fortunate indeed to have you as our President as we seek the rational and peaceful solutions which we must find if we are all to avoid the "universal disaster" you spoke of in your address of welcome to the new members.

I should like to add my own work of sincere welcome to our new members. We can rejoice that our organization now more faithfully represents the world as it is in all its diversity. We look forward to the early admission of those who have not yet taken their rightful place among us - notably Japan, whom we confidently expect to welcome before this session is ended - a welcome too long delayed. Nor can we be satisfied until the German people are properly represented here - and the unhappily divided nations of Korea and Vietnam. Then we hope soon to have among us new states like Ghana, the former Gold Coast, which, thanks to the energy and initiative of its people and enlightened colonial policy, are now taking their place as stable members of the world community.

This expansion of our organization does, however, present us with some new problems. There is danger that we might dissipate our energies in the confusion of voices and stagger under our own weight into anarchy. We cannot continue to act as we did when, though certainly never streamlined, we were a smaller company. We shall require enormous self-discipline if we are to meet the increasing necessity for swift, effective and above all, responsible action.

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