

sex) and to strengthen the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms by a continuing process of education and by subjecting violations to exposure and public attention. I am confident that we shall be able to carry out a programme of this kind successfully because of the enthusiastic support for the cause of human rights which is displayed by voluntary bodies in my own country.

A principal area of conflict over racial discrimination and the denial of human rights is unquestionably southern Africa. As a signatory to the Charter, we are concerned over the absence of progress towards the acceptance of the principle of self-determination in certain non-self-governing territories in Africa and by the stubborn denial by the South African Government of political and human rights. Non-self-governing peoples should enjoy these basic political, social and economic rights promised to them under the Charter and also by those who have given a sacred trust to help them towards self-government.

Canada is deeply concerned about the situation in Rhodesia. Since the illegal declaration of independence by the Smith régime, members of this organization have acted together with the United Kingdom Government to adopt various measures designed to end the present situation and to make it possible for that territory to move towards independence on the basis of majority rule. The great majority of governments at this table have co-operated in these measures.

Canada has refused to recognize the régime, has severed economic relations with it, has participated in an oil airlift to Zambia and is providing other economic assistance to the people of Zambia in the difficult situation created for them by the Rhodesian problem.

During the past few months, and the past few weeks, the members of the Commonwealth have anxiously and closely followed the developments in Rhodesia. The United Nations, for its part, has taken important, even historic, decisions.

The fact is, however, that the actions taken by the international community have so far failed to end the illegal régime. I am well aware that there are many who feel that, in these circumstances, the best answer is armed force. My Government has deep misgivings, however, about such an answer. Would the use of force achieve the results we desire? If not, might it not hurt those whom it was designed to help? This is the kind of question we must ask ourselves. We believe that we should concentrate on seeing that the measures now in operation are applied with maximum effectiveness and that they are strengthened and supplemented in areas where this is practical, so that constitutional government can be restored and independence on the basis of majority rule attained.

The communiqué of the Commonwealth prime ministers' meeting notes a British willingness to co-sponsor in the Security Council a resolution for effective and selective mandatory economic sanctions against Rhodesia before the end of this year, if the illegal situation has not ended by then, and gives full Commonwealth support for such a Security Council resolution. We think such a resolution would indeed be desirable, since we have noted that, although most governments are supporting fully the measures advocated in Security Council resolutions, there have been some instances where this is not the case. My Government is particularly concerned by the fact that some markets are still open to Rhodesian exports, especially minerals and tobacco.

At the forefront of the problems before this session is the question of South West Africa. Since the recent judgment of the International Court was not concerned with the substantive aspects of this question, it does not in any way invalidate previous advisory opinions on the accountability of South Africa to the international community. My delegation is studying the various aspects of the problem with close attention and will indicate its position on whatever proposals are made as the