



Assembly, where the report of the Commission for Eritrea was first discussed between July and September 1950, Canada gave its support to the principle of federation, believing that the Eritreans would encounter insuperable difficulties if they tried to create a separate state, although some concession should be made to the convictions of those who opposed incorporation of Eritrea in Ethiopia. Canada had considerable sympathy with the Norwegian proposal, but believed the evidence showed that federation was the solution likely to be acceptable to the largest number of Eritreans. A tentative draft resolution based on the federal principle was worked out by the Chairman of the Interim Committee during the summer in private consultations with the Italian and Ethiopian Representatives and a number of interested delegations, but final agreement could not be reached before the General Assembly convened.

The following suggestions offered at various stages of the debate during the Fifth Session were defeated: a U.S.S.R. proposal for the immediate establishment of Eritrea as a separate, independent state and the withdrawal of British forces within three months; a Polish version of the Soviet proposal, providing that Eritrea should become an independent state after three years of administration by a council of six members, which would report annually to the General Assembly; a suggestion of Pakistan that Eritrea should be prepared for independence with the aid of a United Nations Commissioner,