

United Nations General Assembly

TWENTIETH SESSION, THIRD MONTH

DURING the third month of its twentieth session, from November 15 to December 15, the General Assembly in plenary adopted a number of resolutions submitted by its main committees, noted the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (Item 14), and debated the report of the Special Committee of Twenty-Four on Colonialism for 1964 and 1965 (Item 23).

Several elections were held. Dr. Fouad Ammoun of Lebanon was elected to the International Court of Justice (Item 97) and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan was elected UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). At a pledging conference on December 8, 36 governments pledged \$1,800,000 (U.S.) in contributions for the 1966 programme of assistance to refugees; Canada's pledge was \$350,000, an increase of \$60,000 over that for 1965.

In the elections to fill the non-permanent seats on the newly-enlarged Security Council of 15 members, Argentina, Bulgaria and Mali were elected to replace the three retiring members. Nigeria, Japan, Uganda and New Zealand were elected to the four new seats on the expanded Council. Of the four new members, Nigeria and Japan will serve for two years, while Uganda and New Zealand will serve one-year terms expiring December 31, 1966. Jordan retained its seat for 1966 under the split-term arrangement agreed on in 1964.

First Committee

The First Committee (Political and Security) completed discussion of the disarmament items on its agenda during the first week of December. It adopted a resolution sponsored by 43 non-aligned countries approving in principle the convening of a world disarmament conference. The General Assembly approved this recommendation a week later by a vote of 112 (Canada) in favour to none against, with one abstention. Consultations between governments are to be held for the purpose of establishing a committee to make preparatory arrangements for the conference.

The Assembly also adopted resolutions calling for the suspension of all nuclear tests, for the establishment of a denuclearized zone in Africa, and for the early reconvening of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC) to consider questions of general and complete disarmament under international control. It approved without objection another recommendation by the First Committee that the question of a conference to sign a convention prohibiting the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons be referred to the Disarmament Committee for study. The U.S.A. and U.S.S.R., as Co-Chairmen, announced that the ENDC would reconvene in Geneva on January 27, 1966. A resolution