External Affairs Supplementary Paper

At the same time - I am now speaking for the sponsors - I can say that we all believe that the selection of the members of the Advisory Committee should also take into account the need for maintaining proper geographic representation of the main regions and groupings among the members of the United Nations.

For these reasons, I am authorized by my colleagues representing those countries who are cosponsoring this resolution to propose that the Advisory Committee provided for in paragraph 5 of our resolution should be composed of France, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada; and, in addition, Brazil, India and the U.S.S.R. We are not making this, at this moment, as a formal proposal nor are we at this time issuing a revision of our resolution incorporating the names of these five countries in the place of the present blank in paragraph 5. The reason why we are resorting to this informal procedure at this moment is that there has not been adequate time for consultations, particularly with the Delegations of Brazil, India and the U.S.S.R.

The fact is that the sponsoring group decided last night to take a position in this matter and to seek the participation of the representatives of these three additional governments in the work of the Advisory Committee. I have been able to inform Professor Leme (Brazil), Mr. Sobolev (Russia) and Mr. Menon (India) only this morning and naturally, we cannot expect an immediate reply from them in a matter of this kind. We did feel, however, that we should inform all members of the Committee of our precise proposals as soon as possible. If the Governments of Brazil, India and the U.S.S.R. find they are able to agree to participate in the Advisory Committee, this would, we hope, complete the seven power resolution.

I should also make it clear, and I am again speaking for the sponsoring countries, that in making this proposal, we do not in any way wish to impose a certain slate upon the Committee. We are in this, as in all other respects, in the hands of the Committee and it is for the Committee to judge which countries should serve. However, for the sake of clarity, we have thought it was desirable to make a specific proposal as early in the debate as possible; and this we have now done.

Finally, I should like to express my hope that the moderate and, I thought, well disposed intervention of the distinguished representative of the Soviet Union yesterday morning may foreshadow the willingness of his Government to follow the path of international comperation in this very important field, and I hope that he will find himself able, along with the distinguished representatives of India and Brazil, to agree to participate in the important work of this Advisory Committee. In the course of the disarmament debate, I need hardly recall that my appeal did not fall on deaf ears — and I acknowledge again the helpful contribution that we received from Mr. Vyshinsky and Mr. Menon and others on that occasion. And I am anticipating that, in a matter of such great importance as the resolution before us now, one may legitimately make the same appeal. From operation and we hope also from the others.