

since the conclusion of the treaty banning tests in the atmosphere, outer space and under water seems to have been an important factor in the lowering of these indices. We should not, however, cease to be vigilant. The indices remain at a high level. The sources of natural radiation are still present. My delegation wishes at this point to renew the appeal which Canada has frequently made that all countries who have not signed the Moscow Treaty should do so and that this treaty should apply to all nuclear tests in whatever location they may be made.

Allow me, Mr. Chairman, to comment briefly on the draft resolution SPC/L.125 which is before us this morning. I would first of all like to point out that this resolution is strictly concerned with the administrative, scientific and humanitarian aspects of the question. On the whole it is similar to the resolution unanimously adopted by this Committee and by the General Assembly in the Eighteenth Session. Its purpose is to confirm the preoccupation of the General Assembly with the harmful effects caused by atomic radiation whatever their source and to confirm the desirability that the Scientific Committee continue its work. This is the gist of its preambular paragraphs.

In operative paragraphs 2, 4, and 5, the resolution is first intended to praise the efforts and the results of the Scientific Committee as well as the co-operation which it has received from specialized agencies in particular the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization, and the International Atomic Energy Agency. It then notes the reports of the Committee on its work in the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Sessions and its intention to present an additional comprehensive report to the Twenty-First Session of the General Assembly and requests the Scientific Committee to continue its programme of activities. Finally it recommends the parties concerned to continue to co-operate with the Scientific Committee and requests the Secretary-General to continue supplying it with the assistance necessary for carrying out its work and distributing its findings to the public at large.

It is with this purpose in mind, Mr. Chairman, that my delegation has the honour to introduce the draft resolution to this Committee on behalf of its co-sponsors. We continue to be convinced that international co-operation in this domaine will prove indispensable in order to prevent or to remedy the noxious effects of atomic radiation on nutrition, health, genetics, meteorology and all manifestations of life. The co-sponsors hope that this Committee and then the General Assembly will give full attention and their unanimous support to this project as has been the case in the past.

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