

of useful studies already made by the World Meteorological Organization in regard to its responsibilities in this field. The fact that nuclear testing is still taking place lends urgency and critical significance to the opportunity we now have to move ahead and to build soundly on the foundations of knowledge laid in previous years. It is with these aims in mind that a large and broadly representative group of delegations has tabled a proposed Resolution which has been circulated as Document A/SPC/L.83/Rev.1. It is the hope and conviction of the co-sponsors that our Resolution will attract the support of all member states. The vital problems with which it is concerned deserve the fullest weight of international attention and care which can be mustered in this Organization.

I think it is generally acknowledged that this second report of the Scientific Committee constitutes the most recent and comprehensive document of its kind in its evaluation of the levels of radioactivity to which mankind is exposed, as well as of their effects on human health. Of equal significance is the fact that such a report represents a tangible and useful product of international scientific cooperation carried out under United Nations auspices. I am sure, therefore, that there will be no dissent from the gratitude and appreciation addressed in the draft Resolution to the Scientific Committee, and to all those who have made a contribution to its work. The sponsoring delegations also consider it appropriate and desirable to have the General Assembly draw attention to the main conclusion reached in the Scientific Committee's Report as quoted in operative paragraph 3 of the first part of the draft Resolution. As was done following the presentation of the first comprehensive report four years ago, the first part of our text would also have the General Assembly request the Scientific Committee to continue its task and report to the Assembly in its Eighteenth Session on its future programme of work. There is much still to be done and we