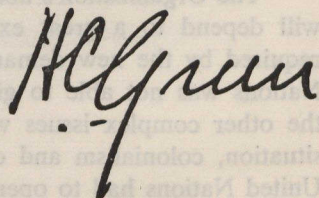


many of the important questions on the Assembly's agenda, particularly those directly affecting East-West relations. The discussions on the question of disarmament in the first part of the fifteenth session, were inconclusive but at the resumed session in March and April, 1961, agreement was reached between the Soviet Union and the United States to start preliminary talks to try to work out the basis for a resumption of disarmament negotiations. These talks began in June and are continuing.

It is my hope that the coming months will see a more favourable climate developing in which the United Nations will be able to proceed in a calmer manner to deal with the urgent issues before it. It is particularly important that some lasting solution be found for the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations which will not only ensure that effective action in future crises will be backed by the necessary financial resources immediately, but that such operations can be carried on without disruption to the vital economic and social programmes of the Organization. There are already signs which give cause for optimism that solutions to some of the fundamental problems may be reached; it will be Canada's aim to work with other member nations towards reaching such solutions.



*Secretary of State
for External Affairs.*

OTTAWA, July 26, 1961.