

Government does not and cannot have any interest in the maintenance of refugee camps as a reservoir for cheap labour, as intimated earlier in this Committee. Needless to say, refugees coming to Canada, like any other immigrants, are absolutely free to return to their first country of asylum or to emigrate to any other country if they so wish.

The Canadian Delegation considers that the implementation of the eight-power resolution is a step in the right direction towards the permanent settlement of the refugee problem. My government approves the proposal that the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds should seek financial resources to permit the carrying out of the High Commissioner's programme and hopes that the efforts of the Negotiating Committee on this score will prove more successful than has recently been the case in other programmes. On the question of the advisory organ, the Canadian Government will welcome any arrangements which will lead to a more effective system of supervision, particularly if this should be required in the light of future developments in the High Commissioner's programme.

For these reasons the Canadian Delegation will lend its support to the eight-power resolution. The Canadian Government regrets that consideration has not yet been given to the question of its contribution to the High Commissioner's programme for 1955. Canada's approval of the eight-power resolution, and in particular of the extension of the activities of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds to cover the High Commissioner's programme, should not be regarded therefore as constituting an undertaking to contribute to the refugee programme which may be approved by the General Assembly. The final decision taken by the Canadian Government in this matter will be very much influenced by the extent to which other governments, including potential major contributors, are prepared to make funds available for this programme.

Voting Results Following is the text of the resolution (U.N. Doc. A/2759) adopted by the Third Committee on October 18, 1954, by 40 votes in favour (including Canada) to 5 against, with 10 abstentions.

Text of Resolution

The General Assembly,

Having considered the problems of refugees within the mandate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the light of his report to the General Assembly at its ninth session,

Having noted with satisfaction the work accomplished for refugees,

Noting that in spite of the efforts made there is little hope that - at the present rate of repatriation,