

welcomed the Assembly's decision and observed that "The wise counsel, which the distinguished representatives of France can voice in the Assembly, has been lacking in the debates during the past two months . . . The Assembly's decision today reflects great credit on its members as a group. The United Nations has undoubtedly been strengthened as a result of today's proceedings".

Continuation of the United Nations Tribunal in Libya

The United Nations tribunal in Libya was established by a General Assembly resolution of December 15, 1950, to facilitate the transfer to the Libyan Government of certain Italian state property. During the summer of 1953, both Italy and Libya informed the Secretary-General that they wished the life of the United Nations tribunal to be extended beyond the eighth session of the General Assembly. As a result, a joint resolution¹ sponsored by Argentina and Egypt was adopted by the General Assembly on October 23, 1953. It provided that the life of the tribunal be extended for a two-year period, and at the end of that time the Secretary-General was to report again on the question.

In his report to the tenth session of the Assembly in 1955, the Secretary-General appended letters received from the Italian and Libyan Governments concerning the continuation of the tribunal. From these letters it was apparent that differences existed between the two countries: Italy contended that the tribunal should remain in existence at least until the end of 1956 and also suggested that the seat of the tribunal be removed from Tripoli; Libya argued that the tribunal should not be continued. The United Kingdom and the United States Representatives then introduced a joint resolution in the General Assembly providing for the termination of the Libyan tribunal and its replacement by an Italo-Libyan mixed arbitration commission with functions, powers and jurisdiction identical to those of the United Nations tribunal². The expenses of the commission are to be met jointly by the two Governments and no termination date was placed upon the activities of the commission. This joint resolution was adopted unanimously.

Cyprus

On September 24, 1954, shortly after the opening of the ninth session, the General Assembly had to decide whether an item on Cyprus, proposed by the Government of Greece, should be inscribed on its agenda. The item was entitled "Application, under the auspices of the United Nations, of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples in the case of the population of the island of Cyprus". At earlier sessions of the Assembly, unofficial delegations from Cyprus had attempted to gain a hearing of their case for the union of Cyprus with Greece. At the eighth session in 1953, the Greek Representative had declared that if bilateral negotiations proved of no avail, the Greek Government might be obliged to raise the question at the next session. Therefore the action taken by the Greek Government in September 1954 was not entirely unexpected.

In the debate on the inscription issue, those in favour of inscription argued that the General Assembly was competent to discuss any matter of broad international concern; those opposed to inscription put forward legal arguments, based on Article 2 (7) of the Charter (concerning domestic juris-

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1953-54*, p. 23.

²See *Canada and the United Nations 1950*, p. 26.