

Argentina, Brazil, India and Nigeria introduced a resolution which would have taken the bond account out of the regular budget and placed it in a special account to be financed by a special peacekeeping scale granting substantial reductions to the developing countries. This resolution was finally withdrawn after the Western countries, which are the principal bondholders, argued that such a change in the terms of repayment of the bonds would be a breach of contract with governments which had purchased bonds in good faith under specific terms. The Fifth Committee decided to postpone further discussion of this subject until the twenty-second session.

UNEF Cost Estimates for 1967

Again this year, Canada formulated and piloted through the Fifth Committee and plenary a resolution appropriating funds (\$14 million for 1967) for the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East (UNEF). The resolution apportioned costs between member states according to the same formula as last year, with the developing countries paying about 5 per cent and the developed countries paying the remainder (with each developed country paying an additional 25 per cent of its apportionment to make up for the shortfall caused by the refusal of certain countries to pay their share). It was possible to attract wider support for the resolution than in 1965 by securing the co-sponsorship of a representative group, including all the troop-contributors except India (which nevertheless supported the resolution), and by enlisting the support of countries which had voted against or abstained in 1965. As a result, a number of countries changed their votes from abstention to affirmative votes and, most significantly, Argentina, Mexico and Colombia, which had voted against it in 1965, abstained in 1966, thus isolating the negative votes of the Soviet bloc. Other factors contributing to the successful result were the facts that the resolution contained no innovations, that last year's resolution had been relatively effective in raising funds, and that UNEF's presence remained necessary.

Pattern of Conferences for 1967

In addition to approving the United Nations programme of conferences and meetings for 1967, the Fifth Committee took new steps to cope with the problem of the proliferation of meetings, conferences and documentation. New Zealand and Canada were co-authors of a resolution, which was approved unanimously, establishing (on a three-year experimental basis) a "Committee on Conferences" consisting of 15 member states. The establishment of such a committee had been endorsed by the Secretary-General and