

consideration of the same subject. With two Soviet-bloc members in opposition, the Credentials Committee, half-way through the session, submitted a majority report recommending that the General Conference recognize the Kasavubu delegation. In plenary, with the active support of Cuba, Guinea and Morocco, the Soviet Bloc used all means available under the Unesco rules of procedure in an attempt to prevent the matter from being settled. After several motions for adjournment or suspension of the meeting or of the debate had been rejected, but a motion for closure of the debate adopted, a vote was taken which supported the recommendation of the Credentials Committee. As in the General Assembly the Canadian delegation abstained in this vote.

Colonialism

The U.S.S.R. delegation proposed at the opening of the session supplementary agenda items on colonialism. The main one called, in substance, for endorsement of Mr. Khrushchev's proposal to the General Assembly for the immediate emancipation of colonial territories. It may have anticipated a current of sympathy towards a debate on colonialism among Asian delegations which found expression, on the opening day of the session, in a speech by Dr. Rhad-akrishnan, Vice-President of India and a member of the Indian delegation. In combining this initiative with a general attack on Unesco as a "pro-colonialist organization", the Soviet Delegation appeared to alienate many of the new African member states who had come to the session full of faith and hope in the organization. Thus, the representatives of Senegal, Dahomey, Mali, the Central African Republic and Laos among others rose to praise the colonial record of France while Sierra Leone quoted the Prime Minister of Canada on how the African states should find their own way to their future with the help of multilateral assistance such as provided through the United Nations. These and other reactions helped to dilute the Soviet resolution which a working party on the subject eventually combined with another one moved by 23 Afro-Asian countries. This was more moderate in tone than the original resolution or its General Assembly equivalent, although it retained the same basic features. After considerable discussion in plenary, the Chairman declared the resolution adopted without a vote. Although the Canadian delegation was in agreement with many of the points dealt with in the resolution, we explained that had a vote been taken we would have abstained on the grounds that we would not wish either to endorse or oppose broad statements of political principle which at that time were being formulated in the General Assembly. Another Soviet item relating to colonialism, which called for the immediate admission to full membership in Unesco of associate members (dependent territories) would have entailed an amendment to the Constitution and was, therefore, deferred to the twelfth session.