

other, the Turkish troops had occupied nearly 40 per cent of the island.

In February 1975 the Turkish Cypriots declared the formation of the Turkish Federate State of Cyprus in the north. Only Turkey recognized this new state. All other countries, including Canada, continued to recognize the government in the south as the legitimate government of Cyprus.

Various attempts have been made to settle this longstanding problem but negotiations have failed to reach a settlement. With the election of a new president of the Republic of Cyprus, George Vassiliou, there was some hope for a settlement, and face-to-face meetings were held with President Denktash of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus under the supervision of the Secretary General of the United Nations. A mid-1989 target set by the UN Secretary General was not met. Frustration about the lack of progress and the concern that other areas of conflict were receiving greater attention were among the factors that prompted the Cypriot group to host this conference. It was a way of drawing attention to this unresolved issue.

In Nicosia we were aware, both directly and indirectly, of the conflict. We landed at Larnica, a city about 45 minutes from Nicosia, because the original airport is in the Turkish sector. As we entered most meetings, groups of Greek Cypriots passed out documentation, and one day Greek Cypriot students demonstrated outside the conference hall. At the official opening, Greek Cypriot children passed out flowers with messages attached to them, and the opening ceremonies included a poem about the conflict. Even at the gala there was a modern ballet entitled the Green Line. At the same time the Turkish Group declined to come to the conference but was present at a hotel in the Turkish sector of Nicosia. These members invited various groups to cross the Green Line to attend various functions and offered to arrange tours of the Turkish sector.

The Hon. the Speaker *pro tempore*: Honourable Senator Bosa, I hesitate to interrupt you, but is it the wish of the Senate that I not see the clock?

Hon. Senators: Agreed.

Senator Bosa: Thank you, honourable senators. I need only a few minutes to complete my remarks.

Senator Doody: You are wasting them.

Senator Bosa: In fact, the Turkish Group invited the Twelve-Plus Group, our western democracy's caucus, to hold one of its morning meetings at a hotel in the Turkish sector, but upon reflection we declined to do so.

Our colleague, Senator Nurgitz, has already referred to the resolution passed by the conference on the subject of peace in the Mediterranean. I would like to emphasize that the Canadian group supported the clauses referring to the Cypriot problem and was greatly distressed by the language in the remainder of the resolution that caused us to veto against this item. Both formally and informally we expressed our support for the sections relating to Cyprus.

[Senator Bosa.]

I would now like to turn briefly to the second item on the conference agenda; namely the debate on "employment, vocational training and new technologies and their relevance to promoting sustainable development and social justice."

● (1750)

In the plenary debate I spoke about Canada's development aid program and how it contributes to sustainable development and social justice. After the 1987 report of the World Commission on the Environment and Development, otherwise known as the Brundtland Commission, our Canadian International Development Agency established a new strategy to make the concept of sustainable development a priority. A number of Canadian universities have introduced courses on solving problems in a sustainable manner. Over the past 25 years Canada has financed the education and training in Canada of more than 60,000 students from developing countries, as well as a similar number of trainees studying in their own or third countries. It is expected that the Canadian government's scholarship program will double over the next five years. I concluded my remarks by stating some of the CIDA initiatives aimed at providing Canadian business expertise to developing countries.

There are over 100 countries that belong to the Inter-Parliamentary Union and each is entitled to send a delegation to the international conferences. All of these delegations or groups, with the exception of Albania, belong to regional caucuses. These regional groups are known as the Non-Aligned group; the Arab group; the Latin American group; the members of the communist countries; and the Twelve-Plus group, which is made up of delegations of like-minded countries of the western world, such as Canada, the U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand and the countries of western Europe.

When it comes to voting on some issues, most of these groups vote the same way, except for the Twelve-Plus group, whose members frequently differ not only from their regional caucus but also from their own national group. Canada and Italy are classic examples of differing voting preferences within delegations. It is not unusual for the Canadian delegates to cast their 12 votes as follows: four in favour, four against and four abstaining; or some other combination. Voting this way reflects the individual preferences of the delegates.

We must not forget that the membership in the Inter-Parliamentary Union is a membership of parliamentarians and not of governments, as it is in the United Nations. Although regional caucuses vote en bloc most of the times, one is led to conclude that these member groups vote as their governments would, rather than according to their own individual preferences.

With the recent events in eastern Europe, we are now beginning to see a different voting pattern in what was once known as a solid communist bloc vote. In Cyprus the Hungarians did not vote with their former eastern colleagues.

At these conferences there are also meetings of like-minded political parties, such as Liberal International, Socialist Inter-