

of the talks. The resolution was opposed by the U.S. and the Soviet bloc on the ground that it misrepresented the achievements of the November 1974 Vladivostok Accords. Canada explained that it had voted in favour of the resolution in order to join with others in stressing the urgency it attached to early agreement between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. on further qualitative limitations and substantial reductions of their strategic nuclear-weapon systems.

Peaceful nuclear explosions

For Canada, one of the most important issues dealt with in the First Committee was the application of nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes. Canada was among the co-sponsors of a resolution that, *inter alia*, stressed that it was not possible to develop nuclear-explosive devices for peaceful purposes without also acquiring a nuclear-weapon capability. The resolution, 3484A (XXX), was adopted in the Assembly with 97 members in favour, five against (Albania, Bhutan, China, India, Malawi) and 24 abstaining (including the Soviet bloc, the U.S.A., Argentina, Brazil, France and Spain). The U.S. and the Soviet bloc made it clear, however, that they agreed with much of the main " thrust " of the resolution.

The Fifth Committee undertook its usual share of resolutions on financial and administrative matters, which ensure the operations of the world-wide UN system. As its main task, the Committee recommended appropriations of \$745, 813, 800 for 1976-77. Growth over the past year was restrained, and enabled most major contributors such as Canada to support the resolutions covering the budget. While developing countries were unhappy with the slow growth in UN programs and development activities, they have, in general, resisted pressure to apply their voting power to financial questions and thereby run the risk of eroding the support of the developed states, which are assessed the greater part of the funds required by the United Nations. There is a general awareness of the precarious financial situation of the organization and its dependence on the timely payment of assessments by major contributors.

Canada took a leading part in the initiative of a broadly representative cross-section of UN members to promote a more responsible approach to financing the organization. The UN Secretariat replied to questions raised at the last session that clearly revealed the serious problems of the UN and the probable growth of its deficit in the absence of remedial action.

As a result, a 54-member intersessional committee has been created to recommend measures for bringing about a comprehensive settlement of the UN's critical financial situation.

The Sixth (Legal) Committee continued in a highly professional manner its consideration of the codification and development of international law. The General Assembly has made notable contributions to the development of treaties and guiding principles on outer space law, thus keeping pace with the rapid technological progress and activities of member states. At the thirtieth session, the items of major interest were the drafting of principles to govern direct television broadcasting by means of satellites and the consideration of the legal implications of the "remote sensing" of the earth from space. A third priority item, a draft treaty relating to the moon, was once again discussed, but little progress was made owing to continuing disagreement on the status of the moon's natural resources.

In discussing the question of direct-broadcast satellites, delegates noted the progress that had been made in the Outer Space Committee and its Legal Subcommittee during the previous year, but had, nonetheless, to recognize that a reconciliation of opposing views was not yet possible on the sovereignty of states and freedom of information. Debate on the legal implications of remote sensing brought to light a tendency to polarize positions; many delegations called for an immediate draft treaty on "consent to sense" and the restriction of data-dissemination, while others demanded the "maximization" of benefits from remote sensing rather than the regulation of its use. A resolution on this item was adopted by consensus in the First Committee, *inter alia* directing the Outer Space Committee to continue through 1976 its efforts to find agreement on a full set of principles to govern direct television broadcasting and its study of the international legal implications of remote sensing.

Charter review

No other item before the Sixth Committee elicited greater interest than the question of the desirability of reviewing, if not revising, the UN Charter. The views expressed varied from those of states that were staunchly "anti-revisionist" to those of states advocating immediate, wide-ranging revision of the Charter. At the thirtieth session, this item was debated in conjunction with the regular item concerning the strengthening of the role of the United Nations. Discussions of Charter review

Little progress on draft treaty on moon resources