

consider whether the submission of an interim report would be warranted. Finally, the resolution invited the World Meteorological Organization to undertake a new world-wide programme for the collection and synoptic reporting of data on atmospheric radioactive levels.

Twenty-four countries, representing every continent in the world, joined Canada in co-sponsoring these proposals. In Committee, the Canadian resolution was adopted by a vote of 75 in favour, none against, with 17 abstentions. Later, in plenary, it was approved by a vote of 74 in favour, none opposed, with 17 countries, notably those in the Soviet bloc, abstaining.

A competing Czechoslovakian draft resolution on the same subject was adopted in Committee by a vote of 33 in favour, 22 against, with 37 abstentions, but failed in plenary to obtain the required two-thirds majority.

The Special Political Committee then considered the second item on its agenda, the question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the *apartheid* policies of the Government of South Africa. Racial discrimination as practised by the South African Government was strongly condemned by speakers in the debate. However, on the question of what action the United Nations should take, a difference of view developed. On the one hand, some members argued that appeals over the past ten years had done nothing to alter South Africa's racial policies and that it was time to take concrete measures because of the threat to peace posed by the South African attitude. This group advocated the application of sanctions against South Africa and its expulsion from the United Nations. These views were embodied in a draft resolution submitted by 31 nations, mainly from Africa.

Other members, however, argued that severe sanctions against South Africa might harm the people whom the United Nations was trying to assist, and that a more realistic approach would be the exercise of continued moral pressure on the South African Government to bring about an abandonment of its racial policies. This view was embodied in a draft resolution co-sponsored by Afghanistan, Ceylon, Denmark, Malaya, India, Norway, Togo and Venezuela.

In Committee, both these resolutions were adopted after a number of separate votes on paragraphs and parts of paragraphs, the 31-nation resolution by a vote of 55 in favour, 26 against, with 20 abstentions, and the 8-nation resolution (as amended) by a vote of 72 in favour, 2 against (Portugal and South Africa), with 27 abstentions.

In the voting on the 31-nation draft resolution, the Canadian Delegation voted against the paragraph that called on the Security Council to consider the question of the continued membership of South Africa in the United Nations and abstained in the votes on the paragraph calling for sanctions and the paragraph drawing the attention of the Security Council to the Committee's recommendations. The Delegation also abstained on the resolution as a whole.

Before voting on the 8-nation resolution, the Committee adopted three major amendments. One of these requested the Security Council to consider taking measures against South Africa "for its persistent violations of the Charter of the