

eloquently and so knowledgeably. Let me only say, Mr. Chairman, that Canada is conscious of the tremendous possibilities inherent in this new field of activities and that Canada regards the establishment of a peaceful, equitable and rational regime for the exploration and exploitation of these resources in accordance with the Charter as a task which requires the most careful and thorough examination by the United Nations. We are most grateful to the distinguished Representative of Malta for bringing this important matter before the United Nations at such an early date, since the complexities which this problem involves, particularly when one considers that our knowledge in this field is as yet only incipient, will undoubtedly retain our attention for many years to come.

The importance of the subject, its far reaching implications and the inadequate state of our present knowledge would seem to suggest, in the view of the Canadian Delegation, the need for an approach which is both imaginative and careful to the adoption of methods designed to permit the ultimate resolution by this Organization of the many complex problems involved.

I should like first of all, Mr. Chairman, to outline as briefly as possible some of the various aspects of the subject which we consider it important to place before this committee.