

and social conditions in the developing countries. The Assembly continued to concern itself with the financial situation of the organization. The Assembly also admitted two new independent African states, Kenya and Zanzibar, bringing membership in the United Nations to 113 in 1963. The following paragraphs provided a summary of the decisions taken by the Assembly on these and other matters on its agenda during the closing month of its eighteenth session.

Addressing the Assembly in the closing moments of the session, Dr. Rodriguez noted with satisfaction that it had succeeded in completing its work within the time prescribed and that its debates had been conducted in an atmosphere of harmony, understanding and mutual respect so necessary for their success. "Both these achievements were possible", he went on, "because throughout this session we succeeded in keeping alive — despite inevitable discussions, sometimes heated and prolonged — the desire to maintain, or rather to increase, the improvement of international relations and to lessen international tension. While we may not have achieved spectacular results, we did help to prepare the groundwork for the future solution of the serious problems facing the world of today."

#### **Admission of New Members**

The United Nations counted 111 members when the General Assembly met in New York in September. Two more were added on December 16 with the Assembly's admission, by acclamation, of Kenya and Zanzibar, on the recommendation of the Security Council. Canada joined with the other 15 United Nations members of the Commonwealth in sponsoring the application of its newest sister states to membership in the organization.

Thirty-five states from Africa alone are now seated in the General Assembly. Speaking at the flag-raising ceremony which followed the admission of the two new members, the Secretary-General, U Thant, remarked:

(This occasion) is symbolic of the progress of the world organization, the United Nations, towards the goal implicit in the Charter of the universality of membership. Each new admission brings us closer to this goal. Today (December 16), we can take pride in the admission of Zanzibar and Kenya and in the advance of the United Nations towards the ideal of the world community.

#### **Disarmament**

Four items falling under this general heading and allocated to the First Committee for consideration and report were disposed of by the General Assembly on November 27. Dealing first with the report of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee (ENDC), the Assembly adopted by acclamation a resolution sponsored by 48 members and calling on the ENDC to resume "with energy and determination" its negotiations on general and complete disarmament under effective control, in accordance with the joint statement of principles for disarmament negotiations and in a spirit of goodwill and mutual accommodation. The resolution further calls on the ENDC to encourage the widening of the areas of basic agreement or similarity in the principal parties' approaches to the funda-