

In October 1972 these draft articles were the object of a preliminary discussion in the Sixth Committee of the 27th U.N. General Assembly. In its intervention on October 6, 1972 the Canadian Representative in the Sixth Committee expressed general acceptance of the draft, and further said:

"We are aware of the heavy pressure upon governments which arises when a diplomat or an important dignitary of a foreign state is kidnapped. We consider, however, that it is essential, if we are to deter such offences in the future, to make clear that all states are prepared to act firmly in both the prevention and punishment for such offences."

By Resolution 2926 (XXVII) of November 28, 1973 the 27th General Assembly requested comments from states on the draft with a view to the final elaboration of the Convention at the 28th session.

In its further comments, submitted on July 5, 1973, Canada reiterated its general support for the draft, and stressed the desirability and the urgency of adopting definitively the Convention at the 28th session of the General Assembly. It was also suggested that the draft be amended to bring the text more in line with the Montreal and the Hague Conventions on unlawful interference with civil aviation.

This item is seen by Canada as having very high priority in the work of the Sixth Committee this fall. There are indications that the discussions may lead to a positive outcome.