

be an easy process or that what we in Canada have been proposing in our consultations is a short-cut to a solution. There are no short-cuts which do not violate both common sense and the spirit of the Charter. What I do suggest is that, unless we are to throw up our hands and turn away from our responsibilities, a start must be made in an effort to find a consensus on this issue.

What we have to decide at this point in time is this: are we content once more to choose--or refuse to choose--between a set of unsatisfactory options; or should we devote our full efforts and energies to a search for a constructive alternative?

We cannot afford to shelve this issue for very much longer if the realities of a diverse world are to find effective expression in the UN. I also want to make it clear that the Canadian Government, for its part, is not prepared to stand by and see this situation perpetuated indefinitely without doing our part to solve the representation issue at the UN. My colleagues and I have devoted much time in the last few months in an effort to open the way for a forward move on the question of Chinese representation at the UN.

I do not propose to linger over the question of importance on which we are being asked once again to pronounce ourselves. It has been the view of my Delegation in previous years that this is an important question, and we do not think that the passage of time has in any way detracted from its importance. It is important for the UN. It is important for the maintenance of international peace and security. And it is important, in the final analysis, because the people of China are important. My Delegation, therefore, does not propose to seek a resolution of this issue by denying its importance.

We also have before us once again the proposal of the Albanian Delegation and other co-sponsors. The intent of this proposal is to seat the representatives of the People's Republic of China in the UN. With this we are in full accord, but the resolution embodying this proposal goes on to stipulate that this be done by expelling the representatives of the Republic of China. The Canadian position on this resolution has been that two wrongs do not make a right. We can see neither sense nor justice in the UNGA denying to the Government of the Republic of China the right and responsibilities of UN membership or in withholding from its people the benefits of international co-operation. If we are to seek a rational and realistic answer to this problem before us, I cannot see that such an answer is to be found in terms of the Albanian resolution.

I wish now to turn to the third proposal which we have before us. I refer to the proposal tabled by the Delegations of Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Italy and Trinidad and Tobago. I do not think I am revealing any secret if I say Canada took an active part in initiating consultations which resulted in the tabling of this proposal. The countries with which we consulted are countries whose views of what must now be done appeared to us to be in general harmony with our own. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to the representatives of these countries our sincere appreciation of the efforts they made to accommodate themselves to our approach to this issue. I should like particularly to pay a tribute to the U.S. Delegation for the spirit in which they