

STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY THE CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN  
THE FIFTH COMMITTEE, MR. LLOYD FRANCIS, ON THE UNITED NATIONS  
PATTERN OF CONFERENCES (ITEM 75), DECEMBER 18, 1967.



Mr. Chairman,

My delegation has studied with great interest the Report of the Committee on Conferences contained in Document A/6991. We wish to commend the Committee for producing a very useful report and to thank them for their hard work in coping with the difficult task of considering the meetings and conference schedule of the United Nations.

We are naturally disappointed that the Committee has not been able to recommend reductions in the 1968 conference calendar through postponing or shortening the length of some meetings, particularly when the Secretary-General himself has expressed doubts as to whether all of the conferences scheduled for 1968 can be staffed adequately both from a qualitative and quantitative standpoint. However, we fully appreciate the difficulties which confronted the Committee in trying to recommend reductions, particularly in this its first year of existence when it was faced with a conference calendar which by and large was already firmly determined. We would, however, like to join with the Committee in emphasizing that the 1968 calendar should be considered exceptional and in appealing to member states to cooperate in measures to ensure a more reasonable distribution of conferences and meetings in future years.

We believe that the difficulties which confronted the Committee this year in considering the 1968 calendar of conferences could be