

ress the Western powers and to exploit the legitimate aspirations of the African-Asians to bring independence to all remaining dependent territories and to eliminate racial discrimination. There was also a tendency on the part of some extremists to advocate unrealistic and unenforceable measures which sometimes went beyond the provisions of the Charter.

On the whole, the developments at the sixteenth session were not unsatisfactory. The Assembly showed a preference for a relatively moderate approach and not the least of its achievements was the establishment of a 17-member special committee, which will be the principal subsidiary organ concerned with implementing the 1960 Declaration on colonialism. The prevailing view, which Canada shared, was that, while strong international pressure should be brought to bear in order to induce governments to modify policies which the majority of states considered abhorrent, this result was not likely to be achieved through the adoption of measures, like sanctions and the expulsion of the member states concerned.

The rapidly changing composition in the United Nations membership has produced pressures for corresponding changes in the Secretariat. At the sixteenth session, attention was sharply focussed on this problem but, when it became apparent that no compromise formula could be enunciated for giving detailed guidance to the Acting Secretary-General, a flexible approach was adopted, at the suggestion of the Canadian Delegation, whereby he was allowed discretion to bring about a new balance in the composition of the Secretariat and invited to present his views on geographical representation to the seventeenth session. This process of adjustment is continuing.

The heavy cost of peace-keeping operations in the Middle East and the Congo has not only seriously strained the financial resources of the United Nations but has become a source of friction among member states, mainly because some members have failed to pay their assessments. At the sixteenth session, the Assembly took extraordinary steps to deal with the financial crisis. A resolution was adopted seeking an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on the question of the legal obligations of members to contribute to the costs of UNEF and ONUC. A second resolution authorized the Secretary-General to issue bonds in the amount of \$200 million and to use the proceeds for meeting United Nations expenses. The Court opinion is expected to be rendered to the seventeenth session of the General Assembly. By the end of 1961, it was too early to say what might be the response to the bond issue. Canada was the first country to subscribe, the amount being \$6.24 million. The hope is that these moves will ease the threat of bankruptcy which has been growing in recent months.

In recent years, conscious of their growing voting strength, the African-Asian and Latin American groups have been pressing strongly for increased economic aid under United Nations auspices. This pressure was sustained at the sixteenth session in the debates concerning a United Nations Capital Development Fund and the flow of capital and technical assistance to the