

position on it. It could conceivably create the impression of a Western bloc "ganging up" against the outsiders.

You might wish to take this opportunity to comment to Mr. Nesbitt on the assessment of the Council's work which he has provided, and to thank him for having undertaken the leadership of the Delegation. With this in mind, I have had prepared for your signature a letter† for this purpose. You might also wish to congratulate Dr. George Davidson, Deputy Minister of Welfare, who was the first Canadian to serve as President of the Economic and Social Council, and was the Canadian representative to its 25th and 26th sessions, and I attach a draft letter† which you might wish to consider. Dr. Davidson will preside over the resumed session of ECOSOC which is convened in New York for a day or two towards the end of each regular session of the General Assembly, to consider any business arising out of decisions which may have been taken at the Thirteenth Session. The draft letter suggests that this might possibly provide an occasion for you to discuss the economic and social activities of the United Nations with Dr. Davidson.

J. L.[ÉGER]

[PIÈCE JOINTE/ENCLOSURE]

*Note*

*Memorandum*

CONFIDENTIAL. CANADIAN EYES ONLY.

[Ottawa, n.d.]

GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE 26TH SESSION OF ECOSOC — CONSTRUCTIVE

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1. When the Suez crisis occurred during the 22nd session of ECOSOC the result was increased tension and difficulty. In contrast, the events in the Middle East which occurred during the 26th session of ECOSOC served chiefly to distract attention from the debates and to aggravate the lack of interest which some delegations were already displaying in the work of the Council. This lack of interest was shown in a number of ways. Some delegations were not even represented at all the meetings of the Council Committees. The level of representation tended to be lower than at previous meetings. The U.S.S.R. and its satellites introduced a large number of draft resolutions, many of them prepared some time in advance and very well prepared. However, the Soviet Delegation did not press its resolutions vigorously. Even the less developed countries representation at the meetings was less active than might have been expected. The Indonesian Delegation made little or no positive contribution to the work of the Council at its 26th session, the Pakistan Delegation somewhat more. The Latin American Delegations were active only sporadically.

2. The Canadian Delegation had no special initiatives to negotiate during the 26th session. The Delegation was of course anxious to ensure that the Special Fund was established on a sound basis and to this end that the report of the Preparatory Committee was approved without major change. We had little difficulty in achieving this objective. Even on the Commodities item, in which we were most interested, it was more the responsibility of other delegations than ours to negotiate changes in the terms of reference of the C.I.C.T. The Delegation was, however, active in protecting our own seat on this Commission. In any event Canada was re-elected (16 out of a possible 18 votes) for a three-year term in the reconstituted body. In keeping with past traditions, the Delegation's major activity consisted of preventing unsatisfactory resolutions from being passed and amending or adapt-