

February 1969 in Niger. The Government also received an invitation to attend the conference of ministers of education to be held in Kinshasa in January 1969, in contrast to the previous conference held in Libreville, Gabon. This invitation was accepted.

The illegal situation in Rhodesia continued to concern countries, such as Canada, which did not accept the institutionalization of discrimination based on colour. As a member of the United Nations Security Council, Canada voted in favour of the resolution of May 29, 1968, which imposed comprehensive mandatory sanctions against Rhodesia. Although Canada has enforced a complete trade embargo since February 1966, certain measures were necessary to ensure Canadian compliance with the new resolution and these were adopted by Order-in-Council on December 20. Canada continued to advocate, as the best solution to the Rhodesia problem, that legal independence should not be granted except on the basis of majority rule (NIBMAR) and reaffirmed this principle by voting in favour of the United Nations General Assembly resolution of October 25.

The other problems of southern Africa -- apartheid, the territories under Portuguese administration and Namibia (South West Africa) -- also engaged active Canadian attention. The Government expressed its abhorrence of South Africa's racial policies and reaffirmed its support for the United Nations General Assembly's action in 1967 revoking the South African mandate over Namibia. The Canadian delegation voted in favour of a General Assembly resolution condemning Portugal's colonial policies and stated Canada's belief that the peoples of Portugal's overseas territories had the right to self-determination.

Relations with other African states have continued to expand and programmes of economic co-operation have become an increasingly important element in our bilateral relations with these countries.

In July 1968, the Canadian Government was able to give up its role of protecting power for British interests in Tanzania, and for Tanzanian interests in Britain, when those countries re-established diplomatic relations.

In the Middle East little tangible progress was made during 1968 in reaching an Arab-Israeli settlement following the hostilities of June 1967. In view, however, of the consequences which lack of progress toward an equitable settlement might have not only for the peoples of the area but for the entire international community, the search for a just and lasting peace continued to be pursued. The Secretary-General's special representative, Ambassador Gunnar Jarring of Sweden, took the foremost part in this quest, with Canada's full support. As a member of the Security Council, Canada was actively engaged throughout the year in the efforts of the Council to deal with issues arising from the dispute and to promote an agreed settlement.

The Canadian Government continued to demonstrate its concern for the plight of the Arab refugees by giving strong support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). By January 1969, the Government had, for the 1968-69 fiscal