

Poland also sponsored a draft resolution requesting the Secretary-General to study the effects of the use of nuclear weapons. Canada had earlier supported a suggestion in the Secretary-General's annual report for a study of the social and economic implications of developing nuclear armaments. Canada, Norway and Poland co-operated in producing a revised draft requesting the Secretary-General to prepare a concise report on the security and economic implications of the acquisition or development of nuclear weapons and the effects of the possible use of such weapons. This draft resolution attracted 34 co-sponsors. It was passed unanimously by the First Committee and approved in plenary session without a formal vote.

Hungary tabled a resolution demanding strict compliance with the principles of the Geneva Protocol of 1925, condemning any action aimed at the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons and declaring the use of such weapons to be an international crime. Subsequently, Hungary accepted amendments put forward by a group of African states. A further amendment, sponsored by the U.S.A., Britain, Canada and Italy, noted the role of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee in the elimination of chemical and bacteriological weapons, called for strict observance of the 1925 Geneva Protocol on gas and bacteriological warfare and invited members to adhere to the Protocol. After a series of roll-call votes, the Western amendments were accepted by the Committee. In plenary, the resolution was accepted by a 91 (including Canada) to zero vote, with four abstentions.

### **Suspension of Nuclear Testing**

The eight non-aligned members of the ENDC sponsored a draft resolution urging universal adherence to the partial test-ban treaty, an end to further testing, an international exchange of seismic data and the elaboration by the ENDC of a treaty banning underground nuclear-weapon tests. Canada supported this proposal, which met with general approval and was passed by the First Committee. In plenary session, 100 states (including Canada) voted in favour of the draft resolution. Albania cast a negative vote and France and Cuba abstained.

### **Conference on Prohibiting Use of Nuclear Weapons**

Since 1961, the General Assembly has debated an Ethiopian proposal for an international conference to sign a convention prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons. This year, the Ethiopian resolution suggested that this issue be given priority attention by the proposed world disarmament conference. The resolution was passed in committee and in plenary session, where it attracted 80 affirmative votes, with none opposed and 23 abstentions (including Canada). Canada abstained in accordance with the view that the threat posed by nuclear weapons can only be dealt with effectively through substantive progress towards disarmament and that nuclear disarmament is an essential part of general and complete disarmament.