

improvements and modifications in the ENDC, the draft treaty was reported to a resumed session of the General Assembly. Annexed to the draft treaty text was a draft Security Council resolution sponsored by the U.S., Britain and the U.S.S.R., providing security assurances in response to the demands of non-nuclear states.

In the General Assembly on April 20, 1968, the Secretary of State for External Affairs expressed Canada's views on the final draft of the treaty. After six weeks of discussion, the Assembly approved (by a vote of 95 in favour to four opposed, with 21 abstentions) a resolution commending the treaty to member states. The Treaty then opened for signature on July 1. Canada signed it on July 23 and, by the end of 1968, 84 states had signed the NPT and three had ratified it. On December 19, 1968, the Secretary of State for External Affairs informed the House of Commons of Canada's intention to ratify the Treaty and this action was endorsed by all parties in Parliament. Canada thus became the fourth state to decide on ratification and the first "near-nuclear" power to do so.

Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee

The ENDC reconvened on July 16, 1968, to consider five resolutions referred to it by the twenty-second United Nations General Assembly. Proposals about improved controls on biological warfare and the prohibition of underground nuclear testing were discussed but, with the conclusion of the NPT, no other subject emerged as the most promising for negotiation. The ENDC adjourned relatively early to permit its members to attend the Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapon States (CNNWS), which was held in Geneva from August 29 to September 28, 1968.

Conference of Non-Nuclear-Weapons States

The CNNWS was convened on the basis of a resolution of the twenty-second General Assembly for which Canada voted. Ninety-five countries, in addition to Canada, sent delegations to the Conference, which considered three general questions related to the NPT:

- (a) How can the security of the non-nuclear states best be assured?
- (b) How can non-nuclear powers co-operate among themselves in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons?
- (c) How can nuclear devices be used for exclusively peaceful purposes?

The Canadian delegation at the CNNWS played an active role in negotiations and had sufficient influence on conference discussions that Canada was able to vote in favour of most of the resolutions which were passed by the Conference.

Six resolutions were put forward through the first of two committees established by the Conference. Canada supported five of these. They included a resolution reconfirming the principles of the UN Charter