

the matter. The resolution was passed by the General Assembly by a large majority and as a consequence we now have before us the advisory opinion of the Court.

As other delegates have already pointed out, the opinion of the International Court is an unequivocal endorsement of the view that the General Assembly has not the right to refuse to pay the awards in question. My delegation is therefore convinced that there should be no delay whatsoever in making arrangements to pay them. We have no strong views on the particular method of payment and we would support the setting up of a Special Indemnity Fund for this purpose, as suggested by the Secretary-General, if the Advisory Committee finds that proposal acceptable.

Before I go on to the second question before us I should like to express my delegation's appreciation for the attitude taken by the United States on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice. The distinguished representative of the United States explained succinctly to the Committee the other day the reasons why his Government must firmly dissent from the Court's opinion but he also indicated that the United States respects the authority and competence of the Court. We believe the United States Government deserves the tributes of all members of this Committee for placing respect for the authority of the International Court above its own strongly and sincerely held views.

To go on to the next question, the distinguished representative of the United States has taken the initiative in this Committee in suggesting that further amendments to the Status of the Administrative Tribunal are necessary as a consequence of the advisory opinion of the Court. In particular he has proposed that there should be a specific provision for judicial review of the decisions of the Administrative Tribunal. My delegation has noted the references in the Court's opinion to the fact that there is no such provision in the Statute and although the Court did not make any positive recommendation on this point my delegation is of the opinion that the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal might be amended to provide some machinery for judicial review.

The important thing is that any review must be truly judicial. In our statement before this Committee on December 5, 1953, my delegation stated its opinion that any review or revision of the awards of the Administrative Tribunal should, if made, be made by a competent judicial body since each judgment of the Tribunal was in every sense a judicial determination. Now the highest judicial body in the United Nations system of international organization is the International Court of Justice and we naturally turn to it as a possible organ of review. Article 26 of the Statute of the Court makes provision for chambers of the Court to hear particular categories of cases; for example labour cases, and it has occurred to my delegation that it might be possible to have such a chamber review decisions of the Administrative Tribunal. This is