

A related problem is that of pressures which some governments occasionally bring to bear on experts they have nominated. The plight of Romanian expert Mazilu represents an extreme and deplorable example of this phenomenon, and we hope that the Commission will take appropriate action to convey its concern to the Government of Romania.

Mr. Chairman, despite these ongoing concerns, it has been widely observed that the deliberations of the fortieth session of the Sub-Commission were marked by noteworthy improvements in quality and tone. In consequence, the Sub-Commission was able to advance and in some cases conclude, its consideration of a number of important questions. Time permits that I refer only to a few of these issues.

The completion of draft standards on the protection of mentally ill persons marks a significant advance in an important long-running enterprise of the Sub-Commission. My delegation hopes that the Commission will be able to take steps towards refining the important work done on the protection of mentally ill persons.

One aspect of the Sub-Commission's report which is, as always, of great interest to us is that portion dealing with the Working Group on Indigenous Populations.

Since the establishment of the Working Group in 1982, Canada has played an active role in its work and in the fulfillment of its mandate to give special attention to the evolution of standards concerning rights of indigenous populations. In this regard, I might make reference to the extensive comments Canada ha