

detection are adequate for this purpose. At the last General Assembly, a resolution was adopted calling for the highest priority to be assigned to effective measures to limit the nuclear-arms race and to achieve nuclear disarmament. In the hope that a step forward could be made toward overcoming the verification problem, Canada proposed in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament at Geneva that an international system of seismic-data collection should be explored through enquiries to all member states seeking information about the facilities at their disposal and their willingness to make information freely available to all nations. This proposal will be pursued in this Assembly.

The sea-bed and the deep ocean-floor are the last earthly frontiers. The last General Assembly decided that this new environment beyond the present limits of national jurisdiction must be preserved for peaceful purposes. Canada, as a country with one of the longest coast-lines in the world, has a vital interest in the fulfilment of that decision. Consequently, when the arms-control aspects of this question were considered by the Committee in Geneva, we put forward specific suggestions designed to ensure the protection of the interests of coastal states and smaller countries. We were particularly concerned to safeguard these interests through adequate verification provisions to assure compliance with any arms-control treaty on the sea-bed.

The results of the deliberations of the Standing Committee on the Sea-bed and the Disarmament Committee discussions of this question in Geneva are not all that we had hoped would be achieved. We shall, nevertheless, continue to co-operate actively as a member of the Standing Committee on the Sea-bed and as a member of the Geneva Disarmament Committee in efforts to achieve the two main purposes of the United Nations on these questions -- to develop an effective legal regime for the sea-bed and ocean-floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and to ensure the preservation, for peaceful purposes, of the largest possible area of the sea-bed.

I turn now to that other menace to the survival of the human race -- chemical and biological warfare. The Secretary-General's report has told us once again -- if we needed to be told -- the tragic consequence of using these dreadful weapons. At this Assembly we shall be considering proposals to eliminate them.

We recognize the valuable contribution represented by the draft treaty on biological warfare prepared by Britain and tabled in the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament. The Secretary-General's report, together with proposals advanced in Geneva and the draft convention put forward in this Assembly by the Soviet Union, will help to guide and facilitate our deliberations. The procedural resolution Canada sponsored, and which we hope will be included in the report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, is directed to the same ends.

Let us remember, too, Madame President, that the founders of the United Nations provided in the Charter procedures for the pacific settlement of disputes designed to stop the insane pattern of fighting and bloodshed which disfigures our globe from time to time, and today particularly in Vietnam, the Middle East and Nigeria. It is a sad commentary on the state of the world community that it has no capacity to order the cessation of hostilities, except to the extent that the combatants are influenced by world public opinion. The current tense situation