

calmly and constructively. Canada therefore deplored utterances in the Assembly and statements elsewhere, which through their very lack of restraint, tended not only to aggravate the debate but the situation in the area. Canada urged acceptance of the offer of mediation by King Saud but said that if, for whatever reason, Syria and Turkey could not agree to avail themselves of this way of settling the dispute, the Assembly should be prepared to consider other means and that the suggestion that the Secretary-General might be of assistance was to be commended. The debate, however, ended with Syrian and Turkish acceptance of a suggestion that the Assembly take no action on this issue.

Other political issues considered at the twelfth session were the questions of Cyprus, Algeria and West New Guinea. The debate on Cyprus showed the complexity of the problem and the diversity of opinions on the manner in which the Assembly could contribute to the achievement of a solution. A resolution submitted by Greece and amended by Canada, Chile, Denmark, Norway and Spain failed to obtain a two-thirds majority of votes in the Assembly, and, in fact, no resolution was adopted on this issue. A resolution on Algeria submitted by fifteen nations, one of which was Canada, was adopted. It expressed concern over the situation in Algeria, took note of the offer of good offices made by the King of Morocco and the President of Tunisia and expressed the wish that in a spirit of effective co-operation *pourparlers* would be entered into and other appropriate means utilized with a view to a solution in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter. For the fourth time the dispute over the political status of West New Guinea was brought before the Assembly but a recommendation that Indonesia and the Netherlands, as the two parties directly involved, be asked to pursue their endeavours to find a solution of the dispute in conformity with the principles of the United Nations Charter failed to obtain the necessary two-thirds majority and was not adopted.

The issues which are dealt with in the political committees tend by their critical nature to overshadow the multifarious work of the United Nations and Specialized Agencies in the social, economic, cultural and scientific fields. Yet it is in this work that substantial progress is continuously being made in alleviating man's ills. For some years the regular and Expanded Programmes of Technical Assistance, under which experts have been sent abroad and technicians trained, have aided under-developed countries in increasing their production, making more effective use of their resources, expanding their educational facilities and making progress in medical and other scientific fields. In addition to the benefits that have been derived from these programmes the desirability of a programme of grants to assist capital development has been recognized and discussed and the possibility of establishing a United Nations fund for economic development (SUNFED) has been studied in United Nations forums. It has been generally agreed that such a fund would require annual contributions from governments of the order of \$250 million, but it has been apparent that countries were not prepared to make such sums available at the present time. In the light of these considerations the twelfth session decided that a new "special fund" was to be established which would be directed towards enlarging the scope of the United Nations programme of assistance to include special projects in such basic fields as surveys of water, mineral and power resources and the establishment of various kinds of training institutes, demonstration centres and pilot projects. Such special projects have not been within the purview of United Nations assistance programmes. A preparatory committee, of which Canada has become a member, was set up to study and make recommendations as to the precise scope of the Special Fund's activities and the