

periodic reporting by the World Meteorological Organization on measurements of atmospheric radio-activity through its world-wide network of stations.

Mr. Khrushchov's threat to explode a super-bomb prompted a number of delegations, including Canada, to take action to try to prevent that occurrence. Eighty-seven delegations rallied to the support of a resolution calling on the Soviet Union not to carry out its intention to explode a 50-megaton bomb but this did not dissuade the Soviet Government from carrying out two very large explosions. As a further effort to bring about a halt to testing, the General Assembly gave overwhelming support to two other resolutions calling for the cessation of nuclear weapons tests and emphasizing the urgency of resuming negotiations with a view to achieving a safeguarded international agreement on tests. The Assembly also adopted two mainly African-sponsored resolutions which emerged from the discussion of nuclear weapons tests, though they went somewhat beyond the question of testing *per se*: the first sought to make the continent of Africa a denuclearized zone and the second proposed an enquiry into the possibility of convening a conference to sign a convention prohibiting the use of nuclear weapons.

Vigorous efforts were made to bring about a resumption of disarmament negotiations, which had been stalled since June 1960. It had been the consistent aim of Canadian policy since the breakdown to have the negotiations resumed at the earliest possible date. At the sixteenth session, as a result of intensive consultations behind the scenes, agreement was eventually reached on new negotiations in a satisfactory forum and on the basis of an agreed statement of principles. Canadian ideas about expanding the negotiating body to include new members representing the main geographical areas of the world were reflected in the Assembly decision to add eight new members to the Ten-Nation Committee. The new negotiating body began its important work early in 1962. Discussion of disarmament and nuclear testing also led to the adoption of two resolutions aimed at preventing the wider spread of nuclear weapons. Canada supported both these resolutions which were sponsored by Ireland and by Sweden and five other countries respectively.

The Assembly also made progress in the direction of international cooperation in the use of outer space for peaceful purposes. This result was particularly gratifying for Canada, which had been keenly interested in reviving the United Nations study of outer space problems, both technical and legal. The Canadian hope is that, after two years of stalemate, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space will be able to pursue its work with a new sense of purpose and responsibility.

Because of the large number of newly independent countries in the present membership of the United Nations, colonial issues occupied much of the Assembly's time and some of them were held over for the resumed sixteenth session early in 1962. The Soviet bloc continued its efforts to embar-