

unilateral annexation of East Jerusalem and opposing actions by Israel to alter the status of the city. Nor should Canada give any signals that it is prejudging the outcome of negotiations by moving the Canadian Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The Committee suggests that, when the problem is eventually discussed, the Canadian government might urge some kind of special status for the holy places of Jerusalem.

4. How Canada should relate to the PLO

The Committee heard a substantial amount of testimony on the question of whether Canada should or should not recognize the PLO. After weighing all the evidence, the Committee concluded that Canada should continue its present policy of not recognizing the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Canada has close diplomatic relations with Israel and the capacity to make its views known to Israeli officials. But communicating Canadian views to the Palestinians and encouraging the disparate Palestinian community to moderate its positions and to be ready to work out practical accommodations with Israel requires being in contact with PLO officials, since that organization clearly speaks for most Palestinians. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that Canadian government contacts with the PLO continue at their present level and frequency.

5. Golan Heights

Along with East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights ranks as perhaps the most difficult question in the Arab-Israeli dispute. In the Committee's opinion, it would seem that the problem of the future of the Golan Heights should be left to a later round of negotiations. Until some progress has been made and more confidence prevails between those who are party to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the differences over the Golan could block all attempts to resolve disputes in the area.

6. Lebanon

The current problems of reconciliation and reconstruction facing Lebanon are immense. Given the intense internal rivalries, the central Lebanese government must move extremely carefully. Tragically, an end to the turmoil in Lebanon is not yet in sight. For the many Canadians of Lebanese origin, the process of restoring peace and unity to Lebanon is of major importance. The Committee is appalled by recent events in Lebanon and is watching developments with compassion and concern. It supports any efforts the Canadian government is able to make to promote Lebanon's territorial integrity.