

Racial discrimination was one of the major issues before the United Nations, whether in the Security Council, the General Assembly, or the Specialized Agencies. Related proceedings took place in the Commission on Human Rights. As regards South Africa's policy of *apartheid*, the subject has been under consideration for over ten years. It was inevitable that the large influx of new members from Africa would intensify the demand for United Nations action to bring about a change in South African policy. It is now beyond question that race conflict in South Africa is a matter of international concern meriting attention by the United Nations.

This does not mean that the issue has become a threat to the peace within the meaning of Chapter VII of the Charter. A number of African states have maintained both in the General Assembly and before the Security Council that the situation in South Africa arising out of the South African Government's racial policies does constitute a threat to the peace which should be dealt with through measures such as diplomatic and economic sanctions and expulsion. Under the Charter, sanctions were clearly intended to be imposed only if and when the Security Council had determined that there had been a threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression. If, in those circumstances, the Council did decide that sanctions should be imposed, the decision would be binding on all members of the organization. However, a recommendation by the General Assembly in the same sense or one by the Council acting under Chapter VI, as it did in November 1963, does not create legal obligations and members remain free to act within their discretion in implementing the recommendation.

Canada's strong opposition to racial discrimination in any form has been clearly expressed by Canadian spokesmen at the United Nations on many occasions. However, like most other Western states, Canada has opposed Assembly resolutions calling on all members to impose sanctions on South Africa on the ground that responsibility for initiating such action belongs under the Charter to the Security Council. Canada has also opposed moves to expel South Africa from the United Nations or from the Specialized Agencies on the grounds that the principle of universality of the United Nations should be maintained and that expulsion would decrease rather than increase the United Nations ability to influence the South African Government.

The African-Asian states have continued their efforts to bring about the independence of the remaining dependent territories. During 1963, three more new states emerged (Kuwait, Kenya and Zanzibar) and took their place among the members of the United Nations. No real progress was made on the complicated colonial issues arising in Angola and Southern Rhodesia, although, with the dissolution of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland at the end of the year, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland moved closer to independence. The main discussion of colonial issues took place in the Special Committee of Twenty-Four, set up by the General