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I agree with the Representative of the United Kingdom that some formal agreement is required setting out this allocation. The Canadian Delegation would certainly respect an agreement providing for this division of seats and I would hope that other delegations would also be able to support it. We cannot deny the reasonable expectations of any given group of countries, members of this Organization, to adequate representation on a continuing basis in the major organs of the United Nations. We may strongly disagree with the policies of their governments. We may even doubt that some of them have all the attributes required for participation in the United Nations. But, so long as they are members, we must, in the opinion of the Canadian Delegation, accept their right to join in the work of the Security Council.

If this resolution is passed, the Canadian Delegation will, therefore, specifically recognize the existence of an Eastern European seat. In our view the vote of the Assembly a few days ago in favour of the Philippines to replace Yugoslavia for the remainder of the latter's term simply reflected the general opinion that it was the only way to avoid another undignified dispute, and was in accordance with the agreement worked out last year among the majority of the countries concerned. The Canadian Delegation, for its part, has never departed in principle from its policy of recognizing the existence of an Eastern European seat.

I now wish to refer briefly to two of the statements made in this debate.

The Representative of the USSR has implied that Soviet support for this Charter amendment would depend not only on an agreement regarding an Eastern European seat (which I have already touched on) but also on a change in Chinese representation in the United Nations. I think this Assembly as a whole will be deeply offended if a proposal, adopted (as I hope) by a large majority, is frustrated or long-delayed because one member decides to make its ratification conditional on the settlement of another problem. This attitude would show little respect for the deep and genuine desire of, for example, the Asian countries for proper representation on the Council.

The Canadian Delegation also followed attentively the comments yesterday of the distinguished representative of India. We did not agree completely with his arithmetic, nor even, in all respects, with his geography, but our main misgiving arises from his proposal to refer this question to the Charter review committee; or some similar body, before Assembly action is taken. The net result of this would be that nothing will be done, for at least another year, to begin the process of amending the Charter.

After that, if the Assembly should act next year, a second year would elapse before ratifications could be completed and additional members could actually be elected. We believe that the new members of the United Nations and areas of the world now under-represented deserve something better than this.

In conclusion, therefore, Canada strongly supports the 20-power resolution on this subject and hopes that it will be given overwhelming approval.