



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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Statement by Mr. Arthur R. Smith, Canadian Representative on the Special Political Committee, on November 7, 1960

... We have not spoken until today in order to hear first the opinions of the states of Africa and Asia, which perhaps are most intimately concerned with the problem before us. While the question of expanding the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council is a matter which affects all states represented here, it does have a more direct bearing on those states from areas suffering from inadequate representation, and it is apparent to us that any successful solution to correct this imbalance will have to grow out of a desire by those states who will benefit the most from the enlargement of the Councils.

Before setting out my delegation's views, I should like to thank the distinguished representative of Argentina for his most helpful opening statement recalling the intricate course of discussions during past sessions of the General Assembly on this item on enlargement of the Security Council and ECOSOC. He also made a number of interesting suggestions for dealing with the procedural problems involved in enlargement, on which I should like to comment a little later in this statement.

Welcome for New Members

I think it might be relevant to recall to distinguished delegates here the warm and sincere words of welcome extended by all delegations since the opening of this session to our 17 new member states. Indeed, I am particularly pleased that the representatives of two of these states are now my neighbours on this Committee. When we and other delegations welcomed the admission of these states, we also welcomed the contribution each of them would be able to make to the United Nations, and looked forward to their active participation in our deliberations. It is perhaps significant therefore to point out that the item now under discussion in this Committee involves an active attempt to translate those words into deeds, by giving meaningful opportunities for the new members to participate in the United Nations work.