

Inadmissibility of Intervention¹

The U.S.S.R., which had initiated at the twentieth session a proposal for a declaration on the inadmissibility of intervention² in the domestic affairs of states, inscribed an item at the twenty-first session for the examination of the implementation of the declaration in the intervening year. The U.S.S.R. and other Soviet-bloc countries used the opportunity to attack the policies of the United States in Vietnam, Cuba, the Dominican Republic and elsewhere, while many Latin American states countered with strong attacks on the Tri-Continental Solidarity Conference held in Havana in January 1966. A group of Latin American and Afro-Asian states co-sponsored amendments to the Soviet draft resolution which introduced the notion that forms of indirect intervention (e.g. subversion, terrorism, etc.) were as much to be condemned as direct intervention through the use of regular armed forces. As amended, the resolution, which reaffirms the declaration and calls for strict observance of it, was adopted almost unanimously. The Canadian delegate spoke in explanation of vote to make clear that Canada regarded the adoption of the resolution as a political action which should not prejudice work being done elsewhere to codify principles of international law, including the principle of non-intervention.

Outer Space Committee

The United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, with its Legal and its Scientific and Technical Sub-Committees, provides an effective forum for consideration of the political and legal issues arising out of the peaceful exploration and use of outer space. Canada is one of the 24 countries represented on the Committee.

As the result of meetings of the Legal Sub-Committee in Geneva in July and August and in New York in September, the Committee provided the international framework within which the U.S. and U.S.S.R. were able, in collaboration with other Committee members, including Canada, to reach agreement on the 17 articles of the Treaty on the Principles Governing the Exploration and Use of Outer Space (including the moon and other celestial bodies), including, *inter alia*, the following principles: no national appropriation of the moon and other celestial bodies; freedom of scientific investigation in outer space; no military bases or fortifications on celestial bodies; use of these bodies for peaceful purposes only; no testing of weapons on the

¹ The full title of the item was "Status of the Implementation of the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty".

² See Page 42 for a report on the related item on Principles of Friendly Relations.