

various delegations, but fell short of consensus with a resolution that was eventually adopted with five Western abstentions. In explaining Canada's abstention, the Canadian representative described the "internal settlement" as inadequate and reaffirmed Canada's support for the Anglo-American peace proposals.

The question of apartheid also dominated the UN World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, held in Geneva in August. Canada, with several other Western countries, withdrew from the conference when the attempt failed to remove from the final declaration contentious references to the Middle East situation, including a reference to the alleged "Zionism-racism" link. (See also Africa).

Middle East

Despite the signing of the Camp David agreements between Egypt and Israel, the General Assembly adopted 13 resolutions on the Middle East that closely resembled those of the previous several years. For the most part, the debates were acrimonious and did little to encourage constructive action. Canada voted in favour of four of the resolutions, against six and abstained on three.

Canada has consistently supported Security Council Resolutions 242 of 1967 and 338 of 1973 as a framework for negotiations that could lead to a peaceful settlement of the disputes in question. Canada also welcomed the initiative of President Carter in bringing the heads of Governments of Israel and Egypt together at Camp David, and endorsed the agreements reached there.

The Security Council established the UN Interim Force in Lebanon following the Israeli incursion into Lebanon in March. Canada supplied a communications unit to UNIFIL. The mandates of two other Middle East peacekeeping forces were also extended by the Security Council.

Cyprus

Canada's principal contribution towards peace in Cyprus continued to be the maintenance of Canadian soldiers in the UN Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Canada stressed in the General Assembly debate that it wanted reassurance that the peacemaking process was being pursued earnestly and with determination by the parties, and urged the speedy resumption of intercommunal negotiations through the good office of the Secretary-General.

In April 1978, the Turkish Cypriot community presented constitutional and territorial proposals to the Secretary-General that were rejected by the Greek-Cypriot community. In November, suggestions intended to facilitate the resumption of intercommunal negotiations were presented to the parties and the Secretary-General. Canada supported the General Assembly resolution on Cyprus because of its emphasis on the need to resume intercommunal negotiations.