

Canadian Statement in the Third Committee  
Delivered by Professor R. St. John Macdonald  
on Tuesday, November 23rd

Mr. Chairman,

I am grateful to you for this opportunity to express a few of the views of our delegation on the new article 8.

In accordance with your injunction, I will be brief and as specific as possible, and I will resist the temptation that always exists to open up again and again a compromise text that already represents many hours of negotiation and accommodation.

First, sir, we would offer our congratulations to the distinguished representatives of the Philippines, Ghana and Mauritania, all of whom have done so much to put this new document before us. Indeed it goes without saying that without their efforts our work would not be at its present stage of advancement.

There are many things that we like in the new article.

- We think it a good idea to have named the Committee;
- to have clarified the way in which its members are to be elected, and by whom; and
- to have provided for the filling of casual vacancies; and so forth.

There are some things which we think might be improved,

but which we are not prepared to press for, because of the compromise nature of the text. I am thinking here, for example, of the desirability of allowing states to elect non-nationals to the committee, an idea which we will support if it is put

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