

co-sponsored by 16 African states and which was so ably and eloquently introduced by the distinguished Delegate of Nigeria.

Becoming more specific I would like to summarize the position of my Delegation towards the Congo force cost estimates. While some members have had doubts and disagreements on this question in the past, the Canadian Delegation has consistently supported the United Nations in its efforts to achieve the tasks outlined for ONUC in the resolutions adopted by the relevant and competent organs of the United Nations. Canadian military and civilian personnel have seen service with the United Nations in the Congo since 1960 and the Canadian Government is willing to continue to provide such personnel during the period that we now have under review.

It follows from what I have said that, in addition to its normal assessment under the terms of this draft resolution, the Canadian Government is prepared to consider the request contained in paragraphs 7 and 9 of L.793 regarding voluntary contributions. However, I should point out that the Canadian Government considers the method of financing contained in draft resolution L.793 like that in Resolution 1876 to be only a provisional and temporary expedient, and is not a precedent for the future.

We have noted the suggestions advanced by one or two delegations that the amount to be appropriated should be 1 million dollars less than that considered necessary by the Secretary-General and that the assessment of the economically less-developed countries, in paragraph 5 of draft resolution L.793, should be 20 per cent of the regular scale rather than 45 per cent.

With respect to the first of these suggestions the Canadian view is that it would be more prudent to proceed on the basis of the Secretary-General's estimate of the maximum amount required. The Advisory Committee's opinion on the possibility of a reduction was couched only in tentative terms and we are confident that, as in the past, the Secretary-General will keep expenses to a minimum.

With respect to the suggestion that the rate of assessment for the economically less-developed countries should be lowered, I should like to associate my Delegation with the comments of the distinguished Representative