Canada voted against another resolution adopted which recommended that the Secretary-General consider the desirability of increasing the recruitment of suitably qualified inhabitants from non-self-governing territories for the Secretariat. The Secretary-General had made it known that in his view the resolution amounted to a curtailment of his discretion in selecting a staff of qualified and suitable people.

Factors which Determine a Territory's Status

The failure of the Charter to indicate what is meant by a "full measure of self-government", or how and by whom a non-self-governing territory is to be identified has led the General Assembly to call for a thorough study of the factors which will have to be taken into account in deciding whether a territory has or has not attained "a full measure of self-government". The seventh session of the Assembly considered a list of factors submitted by an Ad Hoc Committee, and requested a new Ad Hoc Committee to report again to the eighth session. This second attempt was approved with a number of modifications by the Assembly, which recommended that it be used as a guide both by the General Assembly and by the administering powers. The vote on the final version of the list was 32 in favour, 19 against (including Canada) and 6 abstentions. The Canadian Delegation voted against the resolution because it considered that the list of factors had been altered without adequate study, and that in its final form the resolution contained unacceptable statements regarding the basic question of where the responsibility of determining when a territory is no longer self-governing should rest.

The Cessation of Transmission of Information

During the early days of the United Nations the administering states voluntarily submitted a list of their territories which they considered came under Chapter XI of the Charter and on which they therefore agreed to transmit information. Some time ago, however, the stage was reached when certain administering states ceased to transmit information, on the grounds that the territories concerned had ceased to be non-self-governing, at least as concerned those fields on which information was to be transmitted, namely economic, social and educational. At the eighth session the Assembly considered the decision of the Netherlands to cease transmitting information concerning the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam and the decision of the United States to cease transmitting information on Puerto Rico. The Canadian view has always been that non-selfgoverning territories will normally advance towards self-government by stages and that, at a given time, they will reach a stage at which the administering powers will no longer exercise effective practical control over the social, economic and educational matters on which information has hitherto been submitted. As the Canadian Representative pointed out during the debate on the question of factors, the obligations of the administering powers to submit such information would at that stage come to an end. The Canadian Delegation voted against a seven-power resolution adopted at the eighth session of the Assembly which approved the discontinuance of information