

the Socialist Countries, generally those most interested in this item, were relatively reserved in speaking of programs and policies in favour of youth.

The debate on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women and Action Strategies for the Promotion of Women to the Year 2000 saw the adoption by consensus of four resolutions and one decision (proposed by Canada), according to which the medium-term plan adopted by the Nairobi Conference will be the object of debate at the extraordinary session of the Commission on the Status of Women in January, 1987. Canada played an active role to ensure that these strategies would lead to concrete results, in order to counteract the intent of some delegations to use financial restrictions to the disadvantage of programs relating to women.

On Religious Intolerance, Science and Technology, Rights of the Child, the International Covenants and Torture, a general debate results in interventions on a variety of themes, in which the one common denominator was probably the usefulness of a certain degree of moral authority to underline the importance of the human rights activities of the UN.

On drug issues, the Third Committee emphasized three themes which were the subject of three separate texts: the struggle against production, trafficking and consumption of drugs; the Convention on Illicit Trafficking; and the International Conference on Drugs which will take place in Vienna in 1987.

Debate on the item concerning the High Commissioner for Refugees demonstrated the importance of international cooperation in avoiding new, massive streams of refugee flows, and in facilitating the voluntary repatriation of refugees, as well as in providing for temporary asylum. A contentious Danish draft resolution which would have based a new selection process for asylum countries on population density, natural resources, the size of a country's territories, and gross national product was not put to a vote. Despite encouraging progress in a number of regions, refugees will still capture considerable public attention, and demand special programs of assistance, particularly in developing countries.

The debate on human rights in the world was highly politicized, and each region drew attention to human rights violations in other parts of the globe. The Canadian intervention, given by Ambassador Stephen Lewis,