

7. International Terrorism - Protection of Diplomats

The Secretary-General of the United Nations proposed the introduction of the topic "measures to prevent terrorism and other forms of violence which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms" on the agenda of the 27th U.N. General Assembly. The topic provoked controversy both in the General Committee charged with the allocation of items to the various committees of the General Assembly and in the general debate which followed. The delegation of Jamaica introduced an amendment into the General Committee report to replace the phrase "terrorism and other forms of violence" by the phrase "international terrorism". The proposal was adopted by 55 votes in favour (including Canada), 27 against with 38 abstentions. The delegation of Saudi Arabia then introduced a further lengthy amendment to include causes of as well as measures to prevent international terrorism, which was adopted by 42 votes in favour, 35 against (including Canada), and 44 abstentions. The item was then adopted by a vote of 81 in favour (including Canada) with 18 against^{/and} 27 abstentions in the following form: "Measures to prevent international terrorism which endangers or takes innocent human lives or jeopardizes fundamental freedoms, and study of the underlying causes of those forms of terrorism and acts of violence which lie in misery, frustration, grievance and despair and which cause some people to