

the United States and my own country. This document records our views on the results of the consultations held during the past few months with the representatives of the Soviet Union on atomic energy. It represents, I think, the clearest short presentation yet made on this very difficult topic. It is not in any sense the last word, but it would make a good starting point for those who wish to learn something about the background and the present situation in this field. This basic knowledge, may I suggest, form a starting point for new ideas, from new sources, which may help us in our further work.

A great atomic scientist, Dr. Leo Szilard, who watched the successful experiment which heralded the large scale liberation of atomic energy later said:

"That night there was very little doubt in my mind the world was headed for grief."

But in more hopeful vein he added:

"Politics has been defined as the art of the possible. Science might be defined as the art of the impossible. The crisis which is upon us may not find its ultimate solution until the statesmen catch up with the scientists, and politics, too, becomes the art of the impossible. This, I believe, might be achieved when the statesmen will be more afraid of the atomic bomb than they are afraid of using their imagination, because imagination is the tool which has to be used if the impossible is to be accomplished."

Let us hope that in our search for the solution of the problem now before us in this Committee we may show both imagination and courage. As one step towards that solution, my Delegation has the honour to support the resolution which has been submitted in the name of France and Canada.

Appendix 4

General Assembly Resolution, November 23, 1949: Atomic Energy (Vote: 49 in favour (including Canada), 5 against, 3 abstentions)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1 (I) of 24 January 1946, 41 (I) of 14 December 1946 and 191 (III) of 4 November 1948,

Aware that atomic energy, if used for peace, will lead to the increase of human welfare, but if used for war may bring about the destruction of civilization.

Anxious to free humanity from the dangers which will continue to exist as long as States retain under their individual control the development and operation of atomic energy facilities,

Convinced that an international cooperative effort can avoid these dangers and can hasten the development of the peaceful uses of atomic energy for the benefit of all peoples,

1. *Urges* all nations to join in such a cooperative development and use of atomic energy for peaceful ends;

2. *Calls* upon Governments to do everything in their power to make possible, by the acceptance of effective international control, the effective prohibition and elimination of atomic weapons;