

As for the resumption of negotiations on the cessation of nuclear testing, the Canadian delegation believes that there is no reason why this should not take place immediately. The distinguished and experienced men who were representing the United Kingdom, the United States and the Soviet Union at the Geneva talks are here in New York and, if so authorized, could resume their work at once.

It is also for consideration whether those nations which have been negotiating so far might be joined by other nations which have developed nuclear weapons or have the potential to do so. That is a matter on which there might be some expression of opinion in this Committee.

To conclude, I should like to recapitulate Canadian views regarding the most effective manner to halt nuclear tests and the action this Assembly should take at this time.

First, the General Assembly should adopt as quickly as possible a resolution demanding the immediate end of nuclear weapon tests by all nations and in all environments.

Secondly, in addition to bringing nuclear tests to a halt immediately, Canada wholeheartedly supports the view that the nuclear Powers should return to negotiations with respect to the problem of nuclear tests without delay. They should rapidly settle the differences which separate them, and agree on a binding treaty to put a definitive stop to nuclear testing. This Assembly should, therefore, give its full endorsement to the draft resolution embodying this view which has been submitted by the delegations of the United States and the United Kingdom.

Thirdly, it is necessary to recognize that the Soviet Union is at present unwilling to consider the question of nuclear tests except if this question is negotiated in the context of disarmament discussions. If the Soviet Union insists on this position, Canada would see no objection to having the cessation of nuclear tests discussed in the context of disarmament as the question of highest priority. However, my delegation believes that it is so urgent to reach a binding agreement on the cessation of nuclear weapon testing that its consideration should not be delayed until negotiation begins on other disarmament measures or on the broad question of general and complete disarmament. It could be and should be, we think, the first step in the programme of general and complete disarmament. We believe also that the negotiations on disarmament which were broken off in June 1960 should be resumed at the earliest possible moment, and we shall have more to say on this during the debate on item 3 of our agenda.