

and the liability convention.

Progress was also made on the elaboration of principles to govern direct broadcasting by satellites (DBS). With Sweden, Canada continued in 1974 to play an active role in the Outer Space Committee's Working Group on DBS. At its session the working group considered a fifth joint Canada-Sweden working paper which proposed and explained a set of draft principles to govern direct broadcast by means of satellites. Subsequently the Outer Space Legal Sub-Committee was able to draft preliminary texts of five of the less contentious of these principles. It was expected that, at the 1975 meeting of the Legal Sub-Committee, further work would be done on the more difficult principles concerning prior consent to, and participation in, international broadcast systems, and the definition and regulation of technically unavoidable spill-over emanating from such systems.

Canada also participated in the Legal Sub-Committee's discussions on a draft treaty relating to the moon (a Soviet initiative), as well as the working group on remote sensing of the earth by satellite. There was little progress in either of these areas because of widely differing views held by states on questions of principle related to the two subjects: concerning the moon treaty, the issue of proprietary rights in the moon's resources; and, with regard to remote sensing, the question of the right of the sensed state to withhold consent to be sensed, and to exercise proprietary control over data obtained through remote sensing of the sensed state's territory. While it was realized that it would undoubtedly take considerable time to achieve effective compromise on these difficult issues, Canada throughout 1974 continued to work actively in the UN, in European space organizations and bilaterally to achieve an international consensus on approaches and principles which will encourage development within these areas and at the same time protect national interests.

## The definition of aggression

At its 29th session the UN General Assembly adopted a generally-accepted Definition of Aggression. Canada expected this to be of important moral authority, and to serve as a guide to the Security Council in determining when the use of armed force constitutes an act of aggression and is thus in contravention of the UN Charter.

Since 1967, when the UN Special Committee in 1974, the Canadian delegation seek a consensus on an acceptable definition, officers of the Legal Bureau have participated in that committee. Canada as a member of the committee also played an active role as chairman of one of three working groups charged with the delicate and complex negotiations which led to the formulation of the definition finally adopted.

During discussions in the UN's Sixth Committee in 1974 the Canadian delegation continued to be instrumental in working out acceptable language, not only for the definition as a whole, but specifically for an explanatory footnote designed to ensure that it would not prejudice the authority of coastal states to enforce their rights within their maritime zones.

The adoption of the definition can be regarded as a considerable achievement when viewed in the light of a half-century of striving on the part of the international community to reach a goal which had hitherto proved persistently elusive. The definition represents a major contribution to the progressive development of international law, which is one of the major purposes of the UN as well as being an important objective of Canadian foreign policy.

## CSCE

The Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, which began in 1973 with Canada, the United States and 34 European states taking part, has as its