

STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED BY MISS M. MEAGHER
PLENARY ITEM 27: THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY



Mr. President,

I have pleasure in introducing today on behalf of the Delegations of Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, India, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the U.S.A. the draft resolution contained in Document A/L.471 of December 2, 1965. I hope that this resolution will receive the unanimous support of this Assembly.

Canada, Mr. President, is one of the early experimenters in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy and has participated in the sharing of nuclear technology, bilaterally and multilaterally, for many years. In the light of this activity, and of the recognition of it reflected by Canada's position as a member of the Board of Governors of the I.A.E.A., since its inception, it is a particular pleasure for my Delegation to present the draft resolution in Document L.471. This resolution notes with satisfaction the contribution made by the Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy to the free international exchange of scientific and technical information and to expanded international co-operation in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, notably in respect of nuclear power. It also expresses appreciation to all those who made the Third International Conference a success. In this connection, it seems to the sponsors to be appropriate to pay a special tribute to the Director General and the Secretariat of the I.A.E.A. for the high level of efficiency with which they fulfilled their responsibilities in carrying out the administrative arrangements for the Conference.

My Delegation in company with the other co-sponsors is of the view that international conferences such as the Third Geneva Conference can indeed be useful and that therefore consideration should be given to the holding of further conferences at appropriate intervals. The draft resolution before you would have the Assembly decide to consider further action at its Twenty-Second Session. In taking such a decision, the Canadian Delegation, for its part, would earnestly hope that all Delegations would take into account the need for proper preparation which in our view means two years of careful and detailed work. My Delegation would also suggest that future conferences in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy should be limited to subjects in areas of work which are receiving direct support from national governments; and that such conferences should continue to be supported by national government funds.

In conclusion, Mr. President, we would like to commend the Third International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy and all those associated with it for making an impressive and significant contribution to the concept of the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Such activity is completely in keeping with the efforts of the United Nations to foster international co-operation in every field.