

It was a matter of great satisfaction for the Canadian Delegation that the important principles and concrete recommendations it has proposed had received such wide support. In particular, the General Assembly's request to the World Meteorological Organization to study the feasibility of developing a world-wide scheme for the monitoring and synoptic reporting of atmospheric radio-active levels opens new possibilities for international co-operation in this important field. Since the adoption of resolution 1629 (XVI), Canada has continued to work for the development of a programme designed to facilitate the early implementation of the General Assembly's proposal by the World Meteorological Organization with the assistance of technical advice from UNSCEAR and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

### *Peaceful Uses of Outer Space*

At its sixteenth session, the General Assembly achieved notable success in promoting international co-operation in the exploration and uses of outer space for peaceful purposes. Lack of agreement as to the organization and methods of work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space had delayed for two years even the beginning of United Nations work in this important field. It was, therefore, all the more remarkable that at the sixteenth session, there was unanimous agreement to enlarge the membership of the Committee, to renew its initial terms of reference and to entrust to it and to a number of Specialized Agencies important additional responsibilities.

From the outset, Canada has consistently pressed for an active United Nations role in respect of the peaceful uses of outer space. Canada was a member of the Ad Hoc Committee established at the thirteenth session which, in spite of the Soviet Union's boycott, was able to prepare a useful report describing the legal and technical questions requiring study. At the fourteenth session Canada was also instrumental in helping to secure unanimous approval of resolution 1472 establishing a new 24-member Committee.\* It was, therefore, a matter of great concern and disappointment that the hopes implicit in this measure of agreement were not realized. Accordingly, the Canadian Delegation to the sixteenth session was determined to spare no effort to overcome the paralyzing deadlock so that a vigorous start could be made on the vital task of achieving international co-operation in outer space before a new dimension had been added to the earthly quarrels of states.

Item 21 entitled "Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space" was inscribed on the agenda largely to take account of the

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\* Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Hungary, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Poland, Romania, Sweden, U.S.S.R., United Arab Republic, Britain and United States.