

In addition, the resolution asks member states having facilities for laboratory analysis to assist in analyzing radiation samples. The Canadian Government, for its part, is prepared to give assistance of this kind to other member states wishing to avail themselves of Canadian laboratory facilities.

We are prepared to receive from other states radiation samples collected according to methods recommended by the Scientific Committee in consultation with the appropriate Specialized Agencies, and to analyze such samples in the Canadian Government laboratories which handle Canada's domestic sampling programme. If other governments indicate their readiness to participate in such a co-operative programme of collection and analysis, the Canadian Government, as an initial offer, is prepared to receive and analyze on a regular basis samples of air, water, soil and food from 20 to 25 foreign sampling stations in each category.

Canada's Offer

Once it is known that others are prepared to co-operate in such a programme, these analyses could be undertaken within the space of the few months required to expand existing Canadian laboratory facilities and analytical staff. The Canadian Government is, of course, prepared to undertake that the analytical procedures used in its laboratories will be such as to ensure the comparability of results with those produced by other governments co-operating in a programme of this nature. We believe arrangements of this kind will materially assist the Scientific Committee in its task and we invite other governments to consider how they might participate in such a programme either through the collecting of samples or through providing facilities for analysis.

If, as we hope, there is a widespread response to our offer, as well as offers by other governments to make their facilities available, it is our understanding that the Secretariat of the Scientific Committee would be kept informed step by step as appropriate arrangements are made between member states offering samples and those offering analytical facilities. The Secretariat would be notified of the availability of radiation samples by member states willing to collect them; it would also be notified by member states, and perhaps by the International Atomic Energy Agency, if they are able to receive and analyze samples in addition to those they have collected themselves. It is our hope that in this way arrangements between governments can be made whereby samples available for analysis are forwarded to the most convenient or appropriate laboratories. The results of the analyses would of course be communicated both to the Scientific Committee and to the country providing the samples.

In making this offer and in presenting this draft resolution for the General Assembly's consideration, the intention of the Canadian Delegation is to strengthen the Scientific Committee's hand and to authorize it to work out practical arrangements designed to secure more of the information it requires. The resolution leaves it entirely up to the Committee to decide how this can best be done and does not attempt in any way to direct or influence the Committee's scientific work.