

contribute to a Zimbabwe Development Fund, which would form part of a final settlement. Canada also supported a Security Council resolution requesting the Secretary-General to appoint a special representative to discuss with all the parties the transition to majority rule.

The General Assembly debate on Southern Africa took part against the background of these developments in the Security Council, although one Western criticism was that the many resolutions adopted by the General Assembly did not sufficiently reflect them. In his statement to the General Assembly during the general debate, Mr Jamieson had criticized the proliferation of resolutions and their often ritualistic nature, and he noted that "by passing more resolutions, we have succeeded, paradoxically, in ensuring that they receive less, not more, attention".

The number of General Assembly resolutions directly concerned with Southern Africa totalled 30, reflecting in tone and content the resolutions adopted the previous year. Canada again demonstrated its support for justice and racial harmony in Southern Africa, and for the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of Rhodesia and Namibia, by voting in favour of 16 of these resolutions. The inclusion of unacceptable elements in three resolutions, such as the singling-out of some countries for one-sided criticism or the blanket criticism of all economic relations with South Africa, led Canada and many other Western countries to vote against them. Canada abstained on the remaining 11 because it had reservations on certain aspects of their provisions, or because they prejudged questions that were still to be discussed in the Security Council. (See also "English-speaking . . . Africa".)

Middle East

Despite Egyptian President Sadat's visit to Israel in 1977 and the establishment of direct contact and negotiation between Egypt and Israel, debate in the General Assembly on the Middle East largely followed the pattern of previous years and continued to be sterile and sometimes acrimonious. Several resolutions that Canada considered to be one-sided or impractical were adopted. In short, the atmosphere of cautious hope generated by developments in the Middle East was not reflected at the United Nations.

Eighteen resolutions relating to the Middle East were passed by the General Assembly; of these, Canada voted in favour of nine, and against four, and abstained on five. Canada has always tried to maintain a balanced position on all Middle East resolutions, and each of its votes reflects the most careful consideration of all aspects of the text of each particular proposal. The basis for the Canadian position continued during 1977 to be support for the framework within which it was hoped to achieve a peaceful settlement, as set out in Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Canada therefore opposed resolutions that appeared to prejudice current and future negotiations. A new resolution was introduced at this Assembly censuring Israel for establishing new settlements in occupied Arab territories and Canada supported this resolution because of its belief that the establishment of settlements in the occupied territories would make the realization of a negotiated solution in conformity with Resolution 242 more difficult.

The Security Council devoted only seven meetings to Middle East questions (including renewal of the mandates of the UN Emergency Force and the UN Disengagement Observer Force), compared to 39 in 1976. Members of the Council agreed not to indulge in a lengthy debate or to support resolutions that might impede the negotiations. (See also "Middle East".)

Cyprus

Canada's principal contribution towards peace in Cyprus continued to be the maintenance of Canadian soldiers in the UN Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP). Canada expressed concern in the General Assembly debate on Cyprus over the continuing inadequate financial support of the force by member states in spite of the importance attached to the UN role on the island. In addition, Canada expressed disappointment that the presence of UNFICYP had not led to significant progress in achieving a political solution to the problems of Cyprus.

The resumption of talks between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities in April temporarily raised hopes that a solution might