

The Canadian Delegation considers that any difficulties now confronting the Commission are essentially a reflection of the long-standing paralysis of its apparatus, rather than a consequence of recent developments. Despite the repeated efforts by the Canadian Delegation to ensure that the Commission fulfil the terms of the mandate accorded to it by the Geneva Conference of 1954, the other delegations have for the past several years consistently refused to allow it to perform its prime responsibilities, the most important of which are the investigation of alleged violations of the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities in Viet-Nam of 1954, the determination of their validity and their reporting as necessary to the Co-Chairmen, while observing an attitude of strict impartiality towards all parties directly interested or involved. Since the ICSC and the processes of consultation and control established by the Geneva Agreement of 1954 have to all intents and purposes been dormant for many years, the Canadian Delegation does not believe that the present difficulties in the relations between the governments of India and the Republic of Viet-Nam have disrupted the activities of the Commission or threatened or undermined the machinery of the Geneva Conference. Indeed the Canadian Delegation considers the present disagreement between the governments of India and the Republic of Viet-Nam to be a purely bilateral matter of no concern to the ICSC.

The Canadian Delegation holds that it is the sovereign responsibility of the host governments to accord or to deny facilities to the ICSC. The