

Paragraph 5 is the first of the two main operative paragraphs of the resolution. The observations which follow represent the Canadian interpretation of the purpose and objectives which these paragraphs are designed to reflect.

In the first place, as the distinguished representative of FAO has already told us, any action by the FAO which would involve the expenditure of substantial funds would have to be the subject of detailed decisions by the appropriate organs of the FAO. This Assembly may, as indeed we have already done in this Committee, question the representative of FAO about FAO's procedures and practices but we should, I think, keep in mind that these procedures and practices are not subject to control by this Assembly. However, it seems clear that, without in any way prejudging what the properly constituted authorities of the FAO may decide, the FAO could take some early action designed to carry out the objectives of this resolution.

Principles of Surplus Disposal

The passage at the end of operative paragraph 5, which, I might say, applies equally to operative paragraph 6 and which refers to the FAO principles for the disposal of surplus agricultural commodities, is of major importance to my Delegation. This section provides the kind of protection which the distinguished representative of Argentina has stated must be available at all stages during consideration of this subject. These principles, which have been worked out in co-operation with representatives of all the different interests involved, clearly involve a protection of normal commercial trade in agricultural commodities and also provide that agricultural surpluses should not be disposed of in such a way as to damage agricultural development in the less-developed countries.

Operative paragraph 6 is perhaps more closely related to the Canadian position than any other part of this resolution. My Government, as I have indicated, has views which are clearly on the record which it intends to press vigorously in the FAO. Nevertheless, the language of paragraph 6 clearly provides that the FAO will be requested to study "the feasibility and acceptability of additional arrangements". This paragraph clearly does not preclude the submission of other proposals in the FAO by other members.

Canada has always opposed wasteful duplication of effort in international organizations and members of this Committee can take it for granted that we should not have supported language which would create conflict between the FAO organization and the United Nations organization itself or between their respective secretaries. We would anticipate that the studies coming forward under operative paragraphs 7 and 8 would be fully co-ordinated so as to avoid duplication.