"I should like to say a very few words to explain the vote which the Canadian Delegation intends to cast on the resolution before us.

"As I said in my statement last Friday, our Delegation felt that it was somewhat futile to recommend the Security Council to reconsider applications for membership previously rejected in the Council, unless the permanent members would agree not to use their veto to prevent the admission of a state which had been approved by two-thirds of the General Assembly as having qualified under the conditions of Article 4, paragraph 1.

"In effect, if I understand them correctly, four of the permanent members have said that they would waive their right of veto in the Security Council in the matter of admission of new members. This, in the view of our Delegation, is a significant step forward. In view of the statement of the Soviet Delegate expressing willingness to consult with his colleagues on this matter, we can only hope that ultimately there will be unanimity between the permanent members on this point.

"Our Delegation believes that the Assembly is perfectly within its rights in expressing its opinion on the individual applications for membership and in making requests or recommendations to the Security Council. Of the various resolutions on individual applications which have been submitted, we believe that those submitted by Australia most correctly interpret the rights and duties of the Assembly under the Charter. In the absence of an assurance from all five of the permanent members that they will not exercise their veto, we still retain our doubts as to the usefulness of requesting the Security Council to reconsider individual applications. But we feel that an abstention on our part might be interpreted as meaning that our Delegation is not in favour of the admission of the members concerned.

"Our Delegation is most definitely in favour of a favourable consideration of the applications covered by the Australian resolutions, viz., Eire, Finland, Italy, Portugal and Transjordan. In particular we would draw attention to what we regard as the completely unjustifiable grounds which have been advanced for the rejections of the application of Eire. On the other applications that have been rejected by the Council, we shall have an opportunity to make our position clear on these applications in the Security Council. We should also be glad to support the resolution of the representatives of Belgium.

"For reasons which I have stated already on a previous occasion our Delegation will not be able to give support to the proposal of the Delegation of Argentina, nor to the proposal of the Delegation of Sweden. We will vote on the other resolutions before the Committee in accordance with the principles I stated the other day and those I have just stated."

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