

at its fifth session, recommended that the Trusteeship Council review the question of visiting missions, with a view to increasing the number of visits to each trust territory and to reducing the number of territories to be visited by each mission during one tour. A resolution submitted at the sixth session of the Assembly by a group of Arab and Latin American states reiterated the request for a review of the functions of visiting missions and introduced a new suggestion to the effect that representatives of non-members of the Council should be appointed in certain circumstances as members of the visiting missions.

Canada abstained on the final vote on this resolution because its terms prescribed in too great detail the means to be used by the Council in directing the work of its visiting missions and because the proposal to include non-member states in a subsidiary body of the Council would disturb the balance existing between administering and non-administering powers on all bodies connected with the operation of the trusteeship system. The resolution was, however, adopted by 35 votes to 7 with 8 abstentions.

#### **Attainment of Self-Government by Trust Territories**

A resolution submitted by a group of five non-administering states noted the lack of information from administering powers concerning target dates for the attainment of self-government by trust territories, and called on these powers to provide this information. The administering powers, with considerable support, argued the extreme difficulty of setting the dates, but the resolution was adopted by 38 votes to 8 (including Canada) with 11 abstentions. In explaining his dissenting vote, the Canadian Representative pointed out that the processes of constitutional evolution did not lend themselves to rigid timetables; he said the premature announcement of even a vague schedule might be in the worst interests of the inhabitants of the territories; and he added that there was nothing in the trusteeship agreements or the Charter to indicate that time-limits should be set in connection with the attainment of self-government by the trust territories.

#### **Administrative Unions Affecting Trust Territories**

Some of the United Nations trust territories are linked for administrative purposes with adjacent colonies (which are not "trust territories" but are styled "non-self-governing territories") of the administering powers concerned. The General Assembly, at previous sessions, had recommended that the Trusteeship Council make a careful study of these unions. At the sixth session of the Assembly the Soviet Delegation submitted a resolution calling on the administering authorities to take legislative action to establish in each of the trust territories separate legislative and administrative organs which would not be subordinate to institutions having jurisdiction in adjacent colonies. This Soviet resolution was defeated by a narrow margin (13 in favour, 16 against (including Canada) with 26 abstentions). The Assembly recommended that the Council's standing committee on administrative unions continue its studies and submit a report to the seventh session.