

7. *Promoting international co-operation in the use of the seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction*

The Canadian delegation played a leading role in bringing together widely divergent viewpoints among delegations into a compromise resolution concerning preparations for the Law of the Sea Conference to take place in 1973. It will be prepared by an 80-member committee of which Canada will be a member, since it will include the 42 members of the Seabed Committee to which Canada belongs. Canada also participated actively in the negotiation of the declaration of principles concerning the regime for the exploitation of seabed resources beyond national jurisdiction, which strikes a balance between national and international interests, and between developed and developing countries. Canada co-sponsored the resolution embodying these principles.

8. *Promoting observance of human rights, including adherence to and respect for various United Nations conventions*

In the Third Committee, Canada strongly supported an attempt to make progress towards the establishment of a High Commissioner for Human Rights. Regrettably, no decision could be reached on this, because of opposition by the Soviet and other delegations. The discussion was useful and should lay the ground for progress next year.

Canada also supported a resolution on human rights in armed conflict, laying down some basic principles for the protection of civilians in armed conflicts. Affirmation by the General Assembly of those principles should give them more weight. On October 14, the Secretary of State for External Affairs deposited the instruments of ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.

9. *Contributing to the Progressive development and codification of international law*

Canada helped draft the Declaration on the Principles of Friendly Relations among States, which should make a helpful contribution to international law in this field. Canada co-sponsored a resolution on hijacking urging international action and co-operation in this field, and also a resolution for the first steps to be taken in reviewing the role of the International Court of Justice. Canada's ratification of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties was also deposited by Mr. Sharp on October 14.

10. *Projecting Canada as a bilingual country within the United Nations context*

Canada, with other French-speaking delegations, has been seeking to increase the use of French as one of the two principal working languages in the United Nations Secretariat and the UN generally. As a result of Canadian and other interventions in the Fifth Committee and of discussions with Secretariat officials, the Secretary-General agreed to the re-establishment of a French-language unit in the Press and Publications Division of the Office of