

First and foremost is Canada's concern that fundamental human rights and freedoms should be fully respected throughout the world, including the national right of self-determination and the freedom of the individual from discrimination on grounds of race, colour, creed or political belief.

Second, Canada wishes to do all it can to promote the evolution from colonial rule to full self-government and independence for all dependent peoples who desire that status, at a rate of development governed only by practical considerations of internal stability. Canadians believe firmly in the policy of "the good start" - the erection of a visible economy with a solid base of trained administrators.

Third, it is the opinion of the Canadian Government that the Declaration on Colonialism is intended to apply throughout the world.

Fourth, each remaining colonial territory has its own special problems and its own conditions. The United Nations approach should, therefore, be pragmatic. Different methods must be applied to fit the circumstances of each case.

Fifth, the administering authorities cannot share or shift their responsibilities for dependent peoples under their control. If the United Nations is to contribute to orderly evolution, it must take account of these responsibilities, as well as of the aspirations of the inhabitants of the colonial territory concerned.

The Special Committee has pursued its difficult task with vigour and determination. My Delegation is particularly happy to pay tribute to the ability and wisdom of the Committee's Chairman, Ambassador Jha of India, whom we have recently welcomed as his country's representative in Canada.

The Committee has done a great deal of useful work in its investigation of the issues involved in the areas which it has studied. The scope of the report shows the magnitude of the problems still unresolved. The experience of the Committee clearly demonstrates that progress in this most important and complicated field can best be achieved in a spirit of accommodation among all parties concerned. Whenever it has been possible to reach a consensus, the Committee's proposals have pointed the way to practical progress.

Unfortunately, the Soviet Delegation has used the Special Committee's deliberations as an opportunity to put forward extreme proposals on colonial territories, which were known to be unacceptable to the administering power, rather than to find practical solutions to existing problems. Mr. President, the subject with which the Committee is concerned, the achievement of self-government by dependent peoples, is too important to be used as a device for scoring meaningless victories in Committee debates, or for the passing of resolutions which have little or no prospect of being carried out.