

majority of the members of the Atomic Energy Commission and the U.S.S.R. had made it impossible for the Atomic Energy Commission to continue the preparation of a draft treaty for the international control of atomic energy. This report was adopted by the Atomic Energy Commission in May, 1948 by a majority of nine affirmative votes, the representatives of the U.S.S.R. and Ukrainian S.S.R. voting against it. In submitting its third report to the Security Council, the Atomic Energy Commission recommended that this report and the two previous reports be transmitted to the General Assembly "as a matter of special concern".

In June, 1948, the Security Council approved a resolution submitted by the representative of Canada, that the three reports of the Atomic Energy Commission, together with the deliberations of the Security Council on this subject, be transmitted to the third session of the General Assembly "as a matter of special concern".

The three reports were considered in the First Committee of the General Assembly at its third session and a number of countries, including Canada, put forward resolutions containing proposals on atomic energy.

The First Committee adopted a resolution with some amendments by a vote of 41 to 6 with 10 abstentions. This resolution upon the proposal of the Canadian delegate approved the general findings of the first report and the specific proposals of the second report and noted with concern the impasse which has been reached in the work of the Atomic Energy Commission as shown in its third report. It requested the permanent members of the Atomic Energy Commission to consult together "in order to determine if there exists a basis for agreement on international control" and called upon the Atomic Energy Commission to resume its sessions. The resolution as adopted represented an important modification of the original proposal put forth by Canada and supported by the United States, the United Kingdom, and France that negotiations in the Atomic Energy Commission be suspended indefinitely. In putting forward the original resolution the Canadian representative made it clear that it was designed only as a basis for discussion and that it would probably require amendment. It became clear in the course of debate that representatives of a number of countries were in favour of instructing the Atomic Energy Commission to renew its efforts. The Canadian representative accordingly agreed to amend the Canadian resolution to take account of the wishes of these members.

The amended resolution was approved by the General Assembly as its first major political decision on November 4, 1948, by a vote of 40 to 6 with four abstentions.

Canada has a special interest in the establishment of a practicable system for the control of atomic energy, which will protect the nations of the world from the dangers of atomic war, and which will give freedom to use atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Canada had an early start in the development of atomic energy as a producer of uranium ore and as an associate with the United States and the United Kingdom in the development of atomic energy during the war. In this way, Canadian scientists and engineers have acquired special skills and knowledge in the field. These conditions have enabled Canada to develop scientific research in the field of atomic energy on a national scale. At the same time, it has been realized that the full benefits of atomic energy will only be developed through the association of all nations in a system of international control, rather than through the development of atomic energy on a national basis.