

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(SIXTEENTH SESSION)

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Statement by Mr. Paul Tremblay,
Canadian Representative on the Special
Political Committee

ITEM 76: Question of Race Conflict in
South Africa

Mr. Chairman:

In order to set forth the position of the Canadian Delegation on the item before this Committee, I propose to deal with the problem of apartheid on two planes. One concerns the attitude of my Government toward the apartheid policy practiced by the Government of the Republic of South Africa. The other involves decisions which this Committee and the United Nations General Assembly may take, in the face of continued pursuit of this policy by the South African Government.

Mr. Chairman, over the many years that this vexatious problem has been before the United Nations General Assembly, the Canadian Delegation has made abundantly clear Canada's irrevocable opposition to racial discrimination. We oppose racial discrimination wherever it may be practiced. It represents the very negation of the equality of man, and of human dignity and freedom. It is contrary to letter and spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, and to universally accepted standards of human values. As the distinguished representative of Japan so aptly observed, racial discrimination, no matter when or where practiced, tends to weaken the international fabric of freedom, peace and justice.

It has been emphasized in the course of debate in this Committee that racial discrimination is by no means confined to