

committee was unanimously adopted on December 12, 1959. It envisaged that the committee would review the area of international co-operation, would study practicable means of giving effect to projects for the peaceful uses of outer space which could appropriately be carried out under United Nations auspices, and would consider the nature of legal problems which might arise from exploration of outer space. The resolution also contains a decision to convene in 1960 or 1961, under United Nations auspices, an international conference of interested member states and of the Specialized Agencies for the exchange of experience. Such a conference had been suggested by Mr. Khrushchov in his statement before the General Assembly on September 18.

Speaking in the First Committee on December 11, Mr. W. B. Nesbitt, Vice-Chairman of the Canadian Delegation, welcomed the establishment of a permanent committee on outer space and pledged Canadian dedication to the achievement of the objectives for which it was being created. He went on to suggest that an important test of the value of the new body would be its success in ensuring that scientists throughout the world will pursue research in outer space with that degree of freedom to exchange ideas and information which is traditional among scientists. In conclusion he expressed the Canadian view that the new committee should consider, as a matter of priority "the formulation of a rule, and the means of giving universal acceptance to that rule, that no part of space or any celestial body may be appropriated by or subjected to the jurisdiction of any state".

Algeria

Hostilities in Algeria continued in 1959. In a letter addressed on July 14 to the Secretary-General, the permanent representatives of 25 Asian and African states requested the inscription of the question of Algeria on the agenda of the fourteenth session of the General Assembly. In an explanatory memorandum they recalled the resolutions on this problem which had been adopted unanimously at the eleventh and twelfth sessions, as well as the resolution which failed by one vote to be adopted at the thirteenth session. Noting that despite the appeals in these resolutions there had been no indication of improvement in the Algerian situation, they declared that the attainment of a solution in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations was becoming increasingly difficult and requested, therefore, that the question be considered again by the General Assembly.

No objection was raised in the General Committee when the question of Algeria was placed on the agenda on September 16. The French Representative, without opposing the inscription of the item, stated that his Government would consider as null and void any recommendation or resolution which might be adopted on Algeria on the grounds that the matter was outside the competence of the United Nations and would be an interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state.

On the same day President de Gaulle gave public assurances of his resolve to let the inhabitants of Algeria decide freely on their future and to ask all Frenchmen to ratify this decision. He promised that the Algerians would be given the opportunity, once peace had been restored, to vote for one of three courses: outright secession from France, complete unity with France (francisation), and self-government in association with France. A fortnight later, a political spokesman of the nationalist movement, which seventeen states have recognized as the "provisional government of the Algerian republic" (GPRA) said that they were prepared to discuss the