

Mr. Chairman, the Ad Hoc Committee has before it several other difficult questions which for the most part are yet to be discussed. The position of principle of many delegations on these subjects has been stated in the course of the past session of the Sixth Committee. It is clear, however, that the Committee is not and cannot be in a position to deal effectively with certain problems of a global nature. This does not amount to a denial of their existence, but is merely recognition that the elimination of specific individual terrorist or criminal acts, on the one hand, and the handling of problems related to state conduct on the other hand, could not logically or practically be dealt with in the same instrument. We hope that efforts made by the international community in addressing problems such as racism and other violations of human rights will yield results, just as we hope that a new convention on hostage-taking will be effective in suppressing that particular type of terrorism.

Mr. Chairman, the progress that the Ad Hoc Committee has so far achieved encourages us to believe that the general spirit of cooperation and the genuine desire to achieve results, which have been demonstrated in the past, will continue to prevail. It is of course necessary that the mandate of the Committee be renewed, in the expectation that it can complete its work next year.

3. NON-USE OF FORCE

Regarding the agenda item on the Report of the Special Committee on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Principle of Non-Use of Force in International Relations, Canada shares the reservations of other western delegations and particularly NATO countries. It attaches importance to ensuring that the treaty elaborated is in complete conformity with the UN Charter, and to linking the concept of non-use of force to that of the peaceful settlement of disputes.

On November 22, 1978 the Canadian Representative, Mr. Philippe Kirsch, spoke to the Sixth Committee and expressed reservations as to the prospects of success of the Special Committee in light of the absence of agreement even on broad lines of the future work. He stressed that it was essential that the mandate of the Committee remain flexible, because a draft treaty would make sense only if it enjoyed the support of all delegations, and because the non-use of force and the peaceful settlement of disputes were concepts which could not be dissociated. The Canadian Representative also underlined the basic flaws of the Soviet draft treaty, i.e., the vague character of its provisions and the unescapable difficulties in trying to make the draft treaty compatible with the Charter. Finally, Mr. Kirsch suggested that a simple solution to the overlapping problem might be to transfer the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes from the Charter Committee to the Non-Use of Force Committee. The following paragraphs constitute part of the Canadian Representative's remarks.

It is certainly possible to bring out several very positive elements from this session of the Special Committee. Generally, the delegations have studied the problems put before them in a serious and constructive manner. Furthermore, many delegations have seen the necessity of making the essential links between non-use of force and other aspects of the