

mittee and the draft definitions submitted to it. The committee decided not to put the draft definitions to a vote but to transmit them with its report to the General Assembly. Consideration of the committee's report at the eleventh session of the General Assembly was postponed since the committee had only just reported and there had been insufficient time for governments to consider the report. It is anticipated that the special committee's report will be considered at the twelfth session of the General Assembly.

Two related questions—the drafting of an international criminal code of offences against the peace and security of mankind, and the drafting of a convention on international criminal jurisdiction, which had been placed on the provisional agenda of the eleventh session, were also postponed¹. At the ninth session of the General Assembly in 1954 it had been decided to postpone consideration of the draft code until the special committee studying the definition of aggression had submitted its report. This was done because the draft code raises problems closely related to that of the definition of aggression. For similar reasons the question of international criminal jurisdiction had been postponed until the General Assembly had taken up the report of the special committee and the draft code of offences against the peace and security of mankind.

Statelessness

At its sixth session in 1954 the International Law Commission adopted a draft Convention on the Reduction of Future Statelessness and also a draft Convention on the Elimination of Future Statelessness². The General Assembly in 1954 considered these draft conventions³ and invited governments to give early consideration to the merits of having a multilateral convention on the elimination or reduction of future statelessness, and expressed its desire that an international conference be convened to conclude such a convention as soon as at least twenty states had signified their willingness to attend. Up to October 1956 eighteen states⁴ had so signified.

The Canadian position is that, should a conference be convened, Canada would be represented and would be prepared to sign a multilateral Convention on the Reduction of Future Statelessness in the terms of the draft convention with some modifications. Since Canada believes that there are certain circumstances under which there is justification for retaining the right of deprivation of citizenship, Canada would not be prepared to become a party to a multilateral Convention on the Elimination of Future Statelessness so long as the convention contained provisions which would prohibit the deprivation of citizenship where statelessness would result.

¹See *Canada and the United Nations 1954-55*, pp. 106-108.

²For the texts of these two draft Conventions see General Assembly document A/2693.

³See *Canada and the United Nations, 1953-54*, p. 53; see also Report of the Secretary-General document A/3189.

⁴These states were: Belgium, Denmark, El Salvador, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Israel, Lebanon, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia and Luxembourg.