

of two of these states are now my neighbours on this Committee. When we and other delegations welcomed the admission of these states, we also welcomed the contribution which each of them would be able to make to the United Nations, and looked forward to their active participation in our deliberations. It is perhaps significant therefore, Sir, to point out that the item now under discussion in this Committee involves an active attempt to translate those words into deeds, by giving meaningful opportunities for the new members to participate in the United Nations work.

III

The political and economic developments that have taken place in the world since 1945 and the great increase in the number of member states have created a situation by which the composition of the two Councils of the United Nations no longer adequately reflects the interests of Africa and Asia. The Canadian Delegation has long believed that these countries were not proportionately represented on the Councils, and that the only satisfactory way to remedy the imbalance was to enlarge their membership to an extent consonant with efficiency of operation. It seems incredible that this legitimate wish on the part of the majority of states represented at the United Nations has been frustrated these past five years; that debates on the subject have been diverted into fruitless examinations of unsatisfactory substitute half-measures which would only postpone a realization of proper representation for all areas; and that action has sometimes been prevented for the most irrelevant of reasons. As has been so clearly stated already, if we question the legality of an Assembly decision reached without the participation of a non-member, we will have to be consistent and question every other Assembly decision reached since 1945. But the large number of new members at this session makes it urgent and imperative that we make progress now. My distinguished colleague from Nigeria has already made eminently clear that the under-representation of Africa cannot be permitted to continue any longer, while other delegates