

to one group of states.

The new Part IV of the Single Negotiating Text on the settlement of disputes appears unduly complicated and will require refinement and simplification. Since dispute settlement was discussed for the first time in the plenary session of the conference in April of this year, it remains one of the outstanding issues upon which negotiation will begin at the next session of the conference. The Canadian delegation will, of course, be actively engaged in these negotiations.

Canada, therefore, has good reason to be pleased with the results of the conference. Unfortunately, the conference was not able to conclude its work. It is encouraging, however, that a further session will be held within a relatively short space of time in New York, beginning August 2 and extending until September 17.

...I have attempted to draw some comparisons between the new revised Single Negotiating Text and the previous Geneva negotiating text in order to provide some indication of the measure of progress achieved at the New York session. I think, however, that members of this Committee should be aware that the real significance of the New York negotiating text is that it reflects the great distances already travelled and maintains the needed momentum in the development of radical new concepts in international law. Canada, together with other states, set out to restructure some of the basic concepts of international law because of our conviction that they no longer reflected the needs of our times. I can say to this Committee that, whatever occurs in the next session of the conference and whether or not the conference concludes in success or failure, radical changes are being effected in international law as a result of the multilateral negotiating process that has occurred within the conference.

I think that members will agree from what I have said that now is the time to intensify our negotiating efforts at the conference. Our goal of establishing a sound legal régime for the world's oceans is worth this effort.

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