

# *United Nations General Assembly*

## TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

THE twenty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly was convened on September 19, 1967, and adjourned on December 19, having completed its work on all items on its agenda except three. These were: non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, concerning which the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee was called on by the Assembly to submit a full report on or before March 15, 1968; the situation in the Middle East, to which the Assembly had given priority but which had not been considered because of the action taken by the Security Council; and the question of South West Africa, which the Assembly had decided to retain on its agenda. The twenty-second session is to be resumed when the President, after consultation with member states and the Secretary-General, decides that appropriate conditions exist for consideration of any of these items, on the understanding that, if it is convened to discuss any one of them, it will also be able to consider the others. The 99-item agenda of the twenty-second session was exceeded only by that of the twentieth session, which had to deal with a number of problems left over from the abortive nineteenth session. During the twenty-second session, 113 resolutions were adopted, compared to the record 120 resolutions adopted at the twentieth session. With the admission of the People's Republic of Southern Yemen, membership in the organization reached the total of 123.

At the twenty-second session the shadows which were cast over the previous session by the war in Vietnam and the emotional stress created by developments in southern Africa were deepened by frustration and increasing tension. The twenty-second session was also dominated by a recurrence of critical tensions in the Middle East and Cyprus.

Both these issues were dealt with primarily in the Security Council rather than the General Assembly. It is possible to speculate, however, that the two crises resulted in an increased awareness in the General Assembly of the importance of peacekeeping operations. This was reflected in the peacekeeping debate in the Special Political Committee, and it is interesting to note that, in a modification of their previous attitudes, the Soviet Union and France joined those members urging co-operation with the United Nations Truce Supervisory Organization (UNTSO) in the Middle East.

The debate on the general principles of peace-keeping, in which Canada played an active part, brought forward a resolution which recognized the need, as Lord Caradon had said, for "the convoy to proceed at the pace of its slowest member". The resolution provided not only for the continuation of the Committee of 33 but also for preparation of a study of the facilities, services and personnel that member states might provide for future United Nations peace-