

of priority and could continue the effort at drafting and widening consensus formulations. Such informal working meetings should not be too difficult to organize if the Special Committee is to meet either in New York or Geneva and, in the opinion of my delegation, would be a desirable method not only of supplementing the limited time available to the Special Committee but hopefully of enabling that time to be used more effectively. At the conclusion of the 1967 Special Committee meeting, the Italian representative suggested a future method of work for the Special Committee which would utilize procedural techniques similar to the system of Special Rapporteurs employed by the International Law Commission. Accordingly, the Special Committee would be presented with specially prepared working papers, including draft formulations and related commentaries. It may well be that this idea should be tried and that the informal working groups which conducted the drafting negotiations at Geneva of the three principles not yet formulated could be requested to consider preparing such working papers in the period immediately preceding the commencement of the next Special Committee session. In any event my delegation believes that for a variety of reasons, not the least of which may be the shortage of time, we would be wise to undertake as much preparation for the next session of the Special Committee as possible.