

development. The result need not be a sharp disruption of long established ties with the administering power; we have seen how economic and cultural links may survive and grow after the achievement of independence, and even a continuing political association need not be excluded. But the people of dependent territories - and the people of Angola will not allow themselves to be made an exception - insist on being able to look forward to deciding their own political destiny.

In the opinion of the Canadian Delegation, that part of the resolution which asks the Government of Portugal to undertake political, economic and social reforms with a view to the transfer of power to the people of Angola constitutes an essential step towards the restoration and preservation of peaceful conditions in Angola. While the means of achieving self-determination, and the timing of progress toward the goal are negotiable, the definition of that goal will not wait.

My Delegation shares the Sub-Committee's judgement that, in view of the provisions of the Charter, the international repercussions of the situation and its significance for peace in Africa and in the world, the United Nations cannot but continue to be concerned with the working out of a peaceful solution of the problem of Angola.

The resolution which has been sponsored by forty-three members of the Assembly enables the United Nations to keep under review the problem of Angola and the implementation of its recommendations. Constructive co-operation by the Government of Portugal offers the best hope of bringing the conflict to an early end, of promoting peaceful evolution towards the objectives stated in the United Nations resolutions on Angola, and of restoring a harmonious relationship between Portugal and the people of Angola.

It is my deep conviction, Mr. President, that there is a compelling urgency about embarking upon this co-operative effort. Portugal has made substantial contributions to the material development of Angola. A wrong decision could destroy all that has been accomplished. A wise decision now could lay the foundation for a new and prosperous nation, with a close relationship to Portugal based on friendship and mutual interest.

