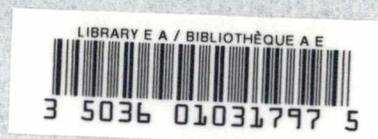


Canadian Statement in the Third Committee

December 10, 1965

by Professor R. St. John Macdonald



Mr. Chairman,

The Canadian delegation supports the proposal to dedicate 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, as well as the suggestion that an international conference be held during that year. We congratulate our friends and colleagues from Jamaica and from other parts of the world for the welcome initiatives which they have taken in regard to these two matters, and we can assure them that Canada is ready and willing to do what it can to ensure the complete success of both programmes. Our position is a flexible one, and we are anxious to be as helpful and useful as we can be to those who are charged with the task of developing the necessary arrangements.

We believe, Sir, that both proposals before us - the international year and the conference - hold promise of promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in a meaningful and practical way. And it is indeed with the practical rather than the more ceremonial side of things that our delegation wishes to concern itself at this time. As a major contributor to the regular budget of the United Nations organization, Canada is naturally anxious to insure a maximum return for the expenditures incurred, and we are interested therefore in contributing to the task of articulating attainable and specific goals against a background of careful preparation.