The Canadian Delegation at the last (1970) session of the U.N.

Committee was instrumental in ensuring that there was no reference in the Declaration to the applicability of its provisions to the high seas or the seabed and sub-soil thereof, since these were matters being dealt with in detail by other U.N. Committees. The Canadian Delegation was also successful in ensuring that the Principle of Self-Determination of People enunciated that "every State shall refrain from any action aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and territorial integrity of any other State or country". The Canadian and Italian delegations were able to obtain the inclusion of a further provision in the Principle of Self-Determination which reads as follows:

"Nothing in the foregoing paragraphs shall be construed as authorizing or encouragning any action which would dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity, or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples as described above and thus possessed of a government representing the whole people belonging to the territory without distinction as to race, creed or colour".