

past year, both in the Canadian Parliament and elsewhere, publicly stated Canadian opposition to further tests. Moreover, the Canadian Delegation at the fourteenth session last year unreservedly supported Sections A and B of resolution 1402 and Resolution 1379.

Again this year the Canadian Government is glad of the opportunity to support two resolutions addressed squarely to the problem of nuclear tests. The first, in Document A/C.1/L.256, stands in the names of three non-nuclear powers - Austria, India and Sweden; the second, in Document 258, has been co-sponsored by some twenty-six non-nuclear powers. Both these initiatives are a tangible demonstration of how the non-nuclear countries can exert their influence in a field of vital concern both to them and to the large nuclear powers which have the responsibility for practical negotiations. It will be no secret to this Committee that my Delegation is always happy to see the smaller and middle Powers playing a role which we have consistently felt they should play with respect to disarmament and related problems.

We have noted that both resolutions make plain, although it is perhaps underscored more explicitly in the 26-Power text, that the overwhelming verdict of world opinion is that tests should not be undertaken by any country. Moreover, both texts go straight to the heart of the problem in recognizing the importance and urgency of an agreement among the nuclear Powers to put a definitive end to future tests under international control. With this in mind, both drafts urge the countries concerned to get on with their vital negotiations.

All of us will have found great interest in the explanations we have heard from the USA and the USSR about the course of the negotiations in Geneva. We now have a much clearer and very helpful understanding of the crucial issues at stake. We cannot but be greatly encouraged by the degree of progress that has been achieved in the many months of patient negotiations. We can take heart from this not only in respect of the nuclear tests problem as such, but also in respect of the broader, but no less important, problem of general and complete disarmament which we all recognize cannot be solved without much devoted attention to serious negotiations. It is true that the few remaining differences in the Geneva test talks constitute formidable obstacles to complete agreement. Those differences relate to such basic issues that failure to agree on them may well bring tumbling to the ground