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Biographical Note

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MAX H. WERSHOF OF CANADA ELECTED CHAIRMAN
OF FIFTH COMMITTEE

Max Hirsch Wershof, who was elected today as Chairman of the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) for the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, is Canada's Ambassador to Denmark, a post he has held since 1967.

He was born in Ottawa, Canada, on 6 October 1909. He holds B.A. and LL.B. degrees, as well as an honorary LL.D. degree, from the University of Alberta. He was called to the Alberta Bar in 1932 and from that year until 1936, he practised law in Canada.

In 1937, Mr. Wershof joined the Canadian Department of External Affairs. He served at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C., 1943-1944 and in Ottawa 1944-1947. In January 1948, he was appointed Counsellor at the Canadian High Commission, London. In 1950, Mr. Wershof attended the Imperial Defence College, London.

In 1951, Mr. Wershof returned to Ottawa, where in 1954 he became an Assistant Under-Secretary of State and was also appointed Legal Adviser to the Department of External Affairs. In 1956, he was Head of the Canadian Delegation to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Statute Conference, New York.

In December 1956, Mr. Wershof was appointed Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the European Office of the United Nations at Geneva. From 1957 to 1961, he was concurrently Head of the Canadian delegations to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) General Conferences in Vienna and a member of the Board of Governors of the IAEA. During this period, he was also Chairman of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner for Refugees and Chairman of the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration.

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Mr. Wershof returned to Ottawa in 1962 and until 1967 again served as Assistant Under-Secretary of State and Legal Adviser to the Department of External Affairs. He was a member of the Canadian delegations to the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sessions of the General Assembly and was Canadian representative on the Sixth Committee (Legal) for the twentieth and twenty-first sessions.

Mr. Wershof headed the Canadian delegation to the United Nations Conference on the Law of Treaties, Vienna, in 1968 and 1969. In September 1969, he was Head of the Canadian delegation to the twenty-first International Conference of the Red Cross, Istanbul, and in November 1969 he was Chairman of the Canadian delegation to the International Conference on Marine Pollution, Brussels.

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