

economic and social development, the United Nations family has embarked on a number of programmes and activities which have placed further strains on an already over-taxed Secretariat. These programmes have, in many cases, been in addition to existing activities. In conjunction with the continuing need to maintain international peace and security, they have created severe stresses and strains on the U.N. family and on the United Nations in particular.

Some delegates, the auditors and the Advisory Committee have already commented on the effects that recent expansion has had on the Secretariat and the use of correct financial and budgetary procedures. My Delegation thinks that within the next few years the rate of increase in membership will not be as great as it has been, as membership in the United Nations becomes virtually universal. Therefore, in spite of existing commitments, the demands on the Organization are unlikely to increase substantially. In order to better prepare the Organization for beneficial future growth and to maintain its dynamic nature, my Delegation thinks that advantage should be taken of this period of stabilization to analyze the Organization. This analysis should consist of three aspects. First, past performance should be carefully evaluated in order to consolidate gains and to profit from experience. Second, present activities should be reappraised to maximize the benefits derivable from available resources. Third, serious thought should now be given to the amount and direction of future growth. As a result of such an analysis, the United Nations should be better prepared to carry out programmes of economic and social development and to maintain international peace and security.

With this in mind, let us now turn to the more specific tasks which face us at this Session. In this regard, a factor which stands out above all others is the