

for new or additional contributions to the UNFICYP account. The contributions which have been made to date, in response to these appeals, fall far short of the total need, but we are hopeful that, during the coming months, our efforts will bear significant fruit in helping to reduce the ever-increasing deficit in the UNFICYP account, which - I must once more reiterate - is now being financed, owing to the shortfall in voluntary contributions, mainly by the troop contributors themselves. As the co-sponsors of this year's draft resolution have themselves recognized, UNFICYP continues to play an important role on the island and it is difficult to imagine what the consequences would be if the Force, already recently reduced by the withdrawal of the Finnish contingent, were to be trimmed even further because of financial considerations.

Turning now to the political situation, I should like to reaffirm, the Canadian Government's continuing support for the Secretary-General and his representatives in their efforts to stimulate a resumption of the intercommunal talks. At this time, I should like to pay a special tribute to His Excellency Mr. Perez de Cuellar, on the eve of his retirement from his position as the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus, for his tireless endeavours in the cause of peace.

As for the intercommunal talks themselves, the Canadian Government has every sympathy concerning the frustrating position in which the United Nations Secretary-General has been placed. Nevertheless, we wish to encourage him to persist in his "good offices" role with respect to the negotiations between the two communities in Cyprus. The international community was encouraged earlier this year by the resumption of the intercommunal talks in February and held high hopes that significant and mutual concessions would be made by both sides. Unfortunately, however, our hopes were not sustained and we are fully aware that, before meaningful talks can be resumed, certain pre-conditions will have to be met, at least implicitly. The Turkish-Cypriots will have to demonstrate their willingness to make territorial concessions and the Greek-Cypriots their willingness to discuss new constitutional arrangements. We also hope that the other parties directly concerned, will demonstrate a similar willingness to assume a helpful and catalytic function. However important international debate of this issue may be, it is through resumed intercommunal talks that progress will come about, as the draft resolution recognizes in its operative paragraph 3. Needless to say, we also remain convinced that any political solution to the question must include the preservation of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus.

9. Peacekeeping

The Canadian Government, while proud of the role in the field of members of the Canadian Armed Forces serving in United Nations peacekeeping operations, is still of the opinion that a number of aspects of those operations could have been handled more effectively with the benefit of advance planning and agreed guidelines. Canada is very disappointed that, after 13 years of effort, the U.N. Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations has not yet been able to agree on such guidelines. Nevertheless, Canada has evolved