

There have in the past been protracted disagreements over the methods of operation and financing of peacekeeping missions. This has also led to considerable disruption in the activities of the UN and has placed the organization in an unsatisfactory financial situation from which it has not yet fully recovered. While we have had on this occasion to devise a special scale of assessments to defray the cost of UNEF, my Government believes that the regular scale of assessments, which adequately reflects the special responsibilities and duties of the permanent members of the Security Council and the capacity to pay of all the members of the UN, should normally apply to peacekeeping operations. In Canada's view, members should seize the present opportunity and the new mood within the Security Council and the General Assembly to examine how the methods for the financing of other peacekeeping operations, such as UNFICYP, might be reviewed in order to put them on a firmer and more equitable footing.

Another important element brought out by the recent decisions of the Security Council was that the composition of UNEF should be balanced in terms of equitable geographic distribution. This has the essential advantage of ensuring that the Force being authorized will enjoy a broad basis of support and participation through its international character. In this way, a growing number of UN members will obtain firsthand experience of the problems of peace-keeping. Wider participation from all regional groups can strengthen the operation, and strengthen the political consensus on which it must be based. At the same time, great care should be taken to ensure that the conception of balance is applied in each case with a sense of the practical and the efficient. The conception of balance does not imply a process of arbitrary head-counting; it must be interpreted with measure as one of a number of guide-lines. To apply it rigidly could make the task of the Secretary-General in setting up a peacekeeping force or a peace-observing mission a most difficult one, and render such operations unwieldy and inefficient. Balance in composition is important, but it will be no less important to the future viability of UN peacekeeping operations that they be carried out in an effective and efficient manner. Canada, for its part, will agree to participate in a peacekeeping or peace-observing force only if satisfied that we would have a clearly-defined functional role to play, and if our participation is acceptable to all parties concerned.

Mr. Chairman, another important element in the mandate the Security Council gave to the Secretary-General was the decision, reflected in Resolution 340 of October 25, that UNEF should be composed of personnel drawn from states members of the UN except the permanent

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