

cannot but feel this great loss keenly. A number of items on our agenda depend very much on the views of the Chief Administrative Officer of this Organization and our task in dealing with them will not be an easy one. During his tenure of office, the late Secretary General gave a great deal of thought to the building of this international instrument, which has been labouriously developed with the help of many dedicated people over the years. By insisting on wise and prudent procedures and by the imaginative use of the powers which were accorded to him under the Charter, this Organization assumed a vitality which gave true meaning to the aspirations expressed in the purposes and principles of the Charter. I can think of no more fitting tribute to the man who has done so much in the philosophical as well as practical development of the United Nations than for us all here to continue this work with a minimum of factionalism and self-interest so that the United Nations can continue to develop in the same positive direction the potential which is contained in the provisions of the Charter.

The Fifth Committee is a technical committee. It is our job here to examine how best the Organization can discharge the duties which the policy-making bodies and organs have placed upon it and to see that there are adequate finances to meet the obligations the members of the United Nations have assumed by their collective decisions. It is not our task here to call into question these decisions but to accept them and to ensure that they are soundly carried out; that in meeting its duties and challenges, the United Nations does not damage its efforts by poor administration and the hasty and ill-considered expenditure of funds.

If there is one political consideration which all of us here must bear in mind, it is that, without sound administration and sound financing, this international instrument which we have built up over the years, will be destroyed just as surely as if a