

attempted to suggest subjects for careful examination. For our own part we did this in a spirit of conciliation, in a desire to meet the views of other delegations and to register some modest achievements. Nevertheless our efforts were not fruitful. In view of the basic importance of the issues involved, we consider that these efforts should be renewed here in this forum, in the same spirit of conciliation and with the same hope of positive results. The Canadian Delegation, for one, is willing to make such an attempt, and to put forward specific proposals for consideration. Any such proposals on our part are placed before this Committee with only one goal in mind: to preserve and, indeed, to enhance the capacity of this Organization to keep peace in the world.

Before embarking on the discussion of specific proposals I should like, Mr. Chairman, to recall some observations made by the Honourable Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, in his statement in the General Debate on September 23. The existence of differing opinions on the nature and value of UN peacekeeping activities, as between a majority and a minority of Member States, was fully recognized, after which Mr. Martin remarked: "... the views of this minority must be respected, even if we do not share their views. We appreciate that we may have to accept the limitations thus imposed, particularly with respect to the position held by some of the great powers on the principle of collective financial responsibility. But even if these limitations are accepted there remains much to be done."

Mr. Chairman, those remarks reflect an approach which, we trust, will be regarded in the way in which it is meant to be regarded--as being both positive and realistic. If such an approach commends itself to other delegations this Twenty-first Session of the General Assembly may manage, despite obvious difficulties, to produce solid accomplishments in the field of peacekeeping.

In developing the aforesaid approach, Mr. Chairman, my delegation would like to group its observations under three principal headings:

- (i) the financing of peacekeeping operations;
- (ii) preparations for peacekeeping; and
- (iii) constitutional aspects.

The question of financing peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures is a matter of great importance. Long-standing disagreement over the financing of some past peacekeeping operations brought this organization to a virtual standstill two years ago. The future of the United Nations seemed to be in jeopardy. Then, through a process in which the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations played a