

these questions are of a relatively minor nature, and the Committee should recognize the difficulties under which the conscientious and dedicated Secretariat officials concerned have laboured on our behalf. However, the Committee would not be fulfilling its responsibilities adequately if it did not turn its attention to the underlying factors involved.

In this regard, there would seem to be little to be gained from reviewing the areas of weakness which already have been brought to our attention since the Controller is undoubtedly well aware of the problems and their causes. Therefore, he is in a better position to comment on such questions and has already done so. On the other hand, I wonder whether, under the pressure of solving day-to-day problems, the Secretary-General and the Controller have had an opportunity and sufficient staff to formulate well-coordinated long-range plans for the future. My Delegation believes that improvements in the financial and budgetary field would be one of the best ways to ensure that the future growth of the Organization will proceed on a sound basis. Therefore, we would be interested in learning, even with the temporary staff already provided for in the 1964 budget estimates, whether the Controller has sufficient staff, not only to take any remedial measures which may be necessary, but also to develop plans for the future. If it is considered desirable to undertake a comprehensive review at this time in order to lay the foundations for any expansion in the Organization's tasks, or to improve the Organization's ability to meet future contingencies, moderate increases in expenditures may be required now. Such expenditures could be a wise investment for the future.

It would be premature at this time to contemplate in any detail the various aspects of such a review. However, thought might be given, for example, to a further standardization of financial and budgetary procedures within the United Nations family to facilitate the interchange of financial personnel, perhaps including a common programme for practical training of personnel who have acquired the required theoretical