

million which is twice the level of all the other expenses of the organization put together. At the fifteenth session, the Fifth Committee attempted to find an acceptable method for apportioning the costs of UNEF and ONUC among member states. The Committee first directed its attention to apportioning the 1960 costs of ONUC, which totalled \$60 million. Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States offered to waive voluntarily their claims on the organization in respect of the costs of certain air transport facilities which had been provided to the United Nations to move troops into the Congo. These claims totalled \$12.5 million (of which Canada's share was approximately \$600,000) and reduced the costs to be borne by the general membership from \$60 million to \$48.5 million. Of these net costs, the United States offered to pay 40 per cent (as compared to its normal share under the scale of assessments of 32 per cent) and this offer was used to reduce the share otherwise payable by the seventy less developed members from 16 per cent to 8 per cent. An identical system of apportionment was agreed for the 1961 costs of UNEF (\$19 million). The Fifth Committee did not, however, agree on a method of apportioning the 1961 costs of ONUC (which are running at about \$10 million per month). In the absence of such an agreement, the Secretary-General was merely authorized to incur further commitments in the Congo of up to \$24 million for the first three months of 1961, pending approval of a budgetary appropriation and a decision on the method of apportionment by the resumed session, in March 1961.

In the years up to 1956 there was the inevitable minority of member states who disapproved of certain United Nations activities or who believed they were being called upon to bear an inequitable share under the method of apportionment which the two-thirds majority had agreed on. This minority nevertheless did not default. Since 1956, however, about thirty member states have been defaulting on their assessed contributions to UNEF. These defaults are partially due to the failure of the General Assembly to provide explicitly that the obligation of members to pay their assessed shares of the costs of UNEF is as binding as their obligation to pay their assessed shares of the other expenses of the Organization. The Fifth Committee at the fifteenth session therefore made explicit provision in a resolution that ONUC assessments create legally binding obligations on member states. The Soviet bloc and several other states who are dissatisfied with the manner in which United Nations operations in the Congo have been conducted, announced that they would in no circumstances pay their assessed shares (about 20 per cent) of the costs of ONUC. Since these costs are now at an annual rate of about \$120 million, it means that the United Nations faces an annual shortfall in respect of ONUC of at least \$24 million dollars. The annual shortfall in respect of UNEF is about \$6 million (30 per cent of the total budget of \$19 million). To this figure must be added an accumulated shortfall in respect of UNEF and ONUC from 1956 to 1960 inclusive at \$30 million (\$20 million for UNEF and \$10 million for ONUC).