

disarmament and such other topics fundamental to international security and peace concerning which preparatory discussions for talks at the summit have been proceeding now for many months.

I repeat, then, that in my opinion the active co-operation of all the Arab States and the identification of all the major Powers with the purposes underlying this draft resolution are essential underpinnings on which its successful fulfilment must be founded. That is not, however, to say that there does not rest upon all of us, and in particular those with direct interests in the Middle East, a solemn obligation to exercise self-denial and restraint while our search for answers to the immediate needs of the current crisis and for a peaceful and prosperous pattern for that area in the future is in progress. The first responsibility of nations, both inside and outside the area, is to see to it that no word or deed of theirs precipitates a dangerous situation which could jeopardize the whole of the efforts of this Assembly. Any nation which failed to heed this warning would bear a grave responsibility before the bar of world opinion.

Secretary-General's Role

Turning to parts B and C of this draft resolution to which Mr. Engen has referred, dealing respectively with the short- and long-term problems with which we are attempting to grapple, may I say first a word about the Secretary-General's role.

The fact that this Assembly is going about its tasks in a purposeful way can, I think, be attributed in large measure to the Secretary-General's timely intervention on 8 August, at the first meeting of the emergency session, when he outlined in such broad but comprehensive terms the course which this Assembly could most usefully steer. In identifying what he described on that day as "basic needs for action in the area", the Secretary-General focused attention on the constructive purposes of this meeting. He provided us with a cogent survey of the problems of the area which require urgent attention -- a survey which has, in fact, guided the discussions here in large measure, from the outset of this session, along productive channels -- and that is reflected in no small measure in the proposals embodied in the draft resolution before us. The nature of the Secretary-General's statement illustrated the ever-increasing burden of responsibilities which he has been called upon to assume in recent weeks, acting always within the broad powers which the Charter confers upon him. Because the United Nations has now been called upon to attempt an entirely new role in the maintenance of stability and peace in respect of a particular area, and because the