

the Secretariat. Canadian officials have found this new form of presentation of considerable assistance and would like to encourage the Secretary-General to extend it to other sections of the budget in the 1969 estimates. My delegation feels that changes in budgetary presentation of this nature represent an important step forward in the direction of programme budgeting which was recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee of 14. At the same time, the retention of the conventional budgetary layout by object of expenditure will ensure that effective central control is maintained over the budget. There is still a long way to go before an integrated system of programme budgeting and long-term planning is realized, but this change in presentation of the estimates is a first step forward towards the provision of budgetary information on the basis of which the Secretary-General can propose feasible long-term programmes and member states can judge the acceptability and likely effectiveness of the programmes proposed.

We were pleased to receive in April the Secretary-General's report on budget performance for 1966 (document A/6666) prepared in response to the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts in paragraph 34 of its second report. We support the view of the Secretary-General in paragraph 9 of the Foreword to the budget estimates that this report would be of greater benefit to Member States if it were supplemented by an evaluation of accomplishments in respect of the work programme during the same period, especially in the economic and social field. A more detailed breakdown of expenditures in the various chapters and sub-chapters (recommended by the ACABQ in paragraph 49 of A/6707) would also, in our view, augment the utility of the report on budget performance.

My delegation appreciates the improvements which have been made in the annexes to the budget estimates this year, particularly the amplification of the information provided in Annex 1. We would also like to thank the Secretary-General for issuing separately a further information annex (Document A/C.5/1115) which breaks expenditures down into administrative costs, operational costs and general research and study costs. Such an annex was recommended for all United Nations Organizations by the Ad Hoc Committee of 14 in paragraph 123 of its second report. Finally, on the subject of budget presentation, may I add, that we await with interest the Secretary-General's report on proposals for changes in the present form of the United Nations budget.

There are other areas where my delegation hopes that it may be possible to make progress at this session in improving our administrative and budgetary procedures. One