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THE CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

For Release on Delivery

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Statement by the Permanent Representative of Canada, His Excellency Mr. Paul Tremblay, on the Financing of United Nations Operations for the Maintenance of Peace.

Wednesday, May 29, 1963.

Mr. Chairman:

The Fourth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly has in the words of the Secretary-General been called to deal with what is perhaps the most serious problem facing the Organization today. It is serious, not simply because the continuation of two very important peace-keeping operations is at stake but, above all, because the ability of the United Nations to fulfil one of its primary Charter obligations - the maintenance of international peace and security is imperilled.

For reasons which are understandable, if regrettable, the United Nations has been very slow in facing up to this issue. The past has been characterized by a series of unsatisfactory ad hoc measures and palliatives which have served to delay but not to avoid the crisis that now confronts us. We believe that there has been some progress towards a solution during the past two years. The International Court has given and the Assembly has accepted the clear advisory opinion that the costs of peace-keeping are costs of the Organization. Most of the Member States now recognize that peace-keeping is a collective responsibility of the whole membership and, stemming from this, the unsatisfactory situation with respect to arrears is beginning to improve.