

benefited from the advice of an excellent group of technical experts, the members of the Advisory Committee. We have only to look through our documentation to see that we are well served by them. In the few decisions we have already taken, all of us have paid the fullest attention to their advice and have accepted their recommendations as being wise and prudent. I wish to pay a particular tribute to the Advisory Committee at this time of change and crisis in the life of the Organization and to express the hope that they will always be there to render their valuable expert opinions to assist us in our work.

I should like to turn now to some more specific points in the documents before us. In the foreword to the budget the Secretary General observes that the initial budget estimates for 1962 have been compiled "with the twin objectives of securing on the one hand a level of expenditure for 1962 which is as close as possible to that approved for 1961, yet, on the other, making the necessary provision to meet the expanding work programmes required by decisions of the principal organs, the enlarged conference activity and other unavoidable cost increases". That the estimates have been prepared with great care is borne out by the modest scale of reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. Nevertheless, it must be recognized that in order to achieve the objective of producing a total close to that approved for 1961 the Secretary General availed himself of a \$2 million decrease in the special provision for technical assistance to former Trust Territories and other newly independent states to offset a proposed increase in staff costs of approximately the same amount. The other major factor contributing to the apparent budget stabilization is the non-inclusion of certain items pending General Assembly direction to do otherwise; I refer, Mr. Chairman, to possible provisions for the proposed increase in professional salaries, and the possible requirements for