

As Mr. Michelmore pointed out in his statement the major problem of financing UNRWA derives from its narrow base of financial support. We would therefore not only urge all current contributors to UNRWA to re-examine their level of contribution but would especially urge those countries which have not yet contributed to consider the possibility of doing so. A widening of the Agency's basis of financial support would appear, ultimately, to be the only constructive solution to its budgetary problem since the maintenance of the Agency's programme at its present level involves rising expenditures which have not been matched by increased revenue.

Mr. Chairman, my Delegation shall be listening with interest to the comments of the other members of the Committee and looks forward to constructive exchanges on these questions in the hope that we shall achieve substantial progress toward assuring the well-being of the Palestine refugees. In the world of today when governments are assuming greater social responsibility within their borders, and outside of them, it is appropriate to keep in mind that a contribution to UNRWA is not only an expression of humanitarian concern: it also represents a contribution to the maintenance of international peace and stability which we all recognize as a collective responsibility.