

generations. That is why there is a widespread commitment to the United Nations and a general interest in making the Organization work better. Quite naturally different Governments or groups of Governments have different ideas about the work of the United Nations and wish it to work on *their* terms. To make the United Nations work better, what is needed, above all, is a determined and persistent effort to strike a balance between national and international interest.

In conclusion, therefore, I wish to repeat my call for a multilateral and rational approach to the problems of international peace and development. I believe that this is what the peoples of the United Nations really desire in spite of all the difficulties and irritations encountered by Governments in trying to make a multilateral system work. It is widely understood that without such a system we shall run unacceptable risks and that it is therefore irresponsible to weaken the multilateral approach. Without the safety net which multilateral organization provides, the world would certainly be a much more dangerous and disorderly place.

In the United Nations we have now had nearly 40 years of experience, 40 years of change, and, for all the conflict of our time, 40 years without a global war. Let us look back at the road we have travelled, distil the experience and set out again refreshed and with a new determination. The purposes for which the United Nations was set up are essential for the future of our planet. The vision expressed in the Charter remains, and we should rally to it.



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