

Canada, for its part, intends to make an all-out effort at the next sessions of the Working Group to obtain agreement on proposals for long-term arrangements based on the principle of a special scale of assessments binding on all Member States. In the meantime, however, stop-gap action is required to deal with the immediate needs of UNEF.

Last June we all accepted the general principle that the economically less developed nations have a relatively limited capacity to contribute to peacekeeping operations involving heavy expenditures, but the fact is that there is no agreement as to how much consideration should be given to this factor in dealing with the specific problem now facing us. We could conduct all over again the debate we had last June, and some of our friends have advised us that this is in fact what should be done.

My own Delegation, for one, believes that the June formula imposes an unduly large share of the burden on the developed countries. When the contribution of a large number of Member States is reduced to token amounts, the principle of collective responsibility loses its meaning. If the financial obligations of the developing countries gradually come to assume token proportions, more reliance would have to be placed on the voluntary contributions from a limited number of states. Consequently the principle of collective responsibility would be seriously weakened. This would be unfortunate since the small and medium sized states would have a proportionately smaller voice in the establishment, direction and financing of peacekeeping operations.

Notwithstanding what I have just said, my Government, together with the Governments of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, all of whom have forces serving in UNEF, came to the conclusion that in view of the importance of the issues