

the admission of many newly-independent states, especially from Africa. This has forced the older members to rethink their own role, but it has also given them an opportunity of cultivating new friends and developing new interests.

I regard this injection of new blood into the United Nations as both desirable and encouraging. I believe the new member states can be trusted to use their voting strength wisely and to make a constructive contribution to the future evolution of the United Nations. No one, after all, has a greater stake than they have in the success of that organization.

It is significant that the new African states strongly supported the United Nations' operation in the Congo through four long years, often marred by confusion, misunderstanding and bitterness though it was. The new member states also rallied to the side of Dag Hammarskjold -- that great proponent of a dynamic world organization -- when he came under attack from the Soviet Union. And it is fair to say that the new states have been among the most zealous in bringing about the fulfilment of the Charter aims of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and in encouraging respect for human rights without distinction as to race, colour or creed.

With the help of the new member states, I am confident that the United Nations will in time become a much more effective instrument for international co-operation. This process will require patience and a great deal of hard work. It will involve lengthy and complicated negotiations among the main power groupings. And it will demand of the affluent nations a much greater appreciation of the aspirations and needs of the developing countries which now compose two-thirds of the United Nations membership.

Uncertainties about the Future

Various uncertainties cloud the future of the United Nations. At a time when it continues to be confronted by serious international problems, the organization still suffers from internal weaknesses and from a lack of mutual confidence as between the various regional and ideological groupings within the compass of the organization.

Developments in recent years have also produced some severe shocks and surprises for the United Nations. Its response to some situations -- notably the Cyprus crisis -- has been neither as prompt nor as effective as the circumstances clearly warranted. Only a few states came forward with offers of contingents and money for the peace-keeping operation in Cyprus and it has not received broad support from the United Nations membership as a whole.

Surely all countries, including those of the Communist world, have a common interest in the maintenance of international peace and security. It seems equally obvious to us in Canada -- as I am sure it does to you -- that, when the United Nations takes action in the peace-keeping field, whether on the initiative of the Security Council or that of the General Assembly, its members share a collective responsibility to pay for the costs of these operations. Yet the fact is that the present operation in Cyprus is limping along on a system of voluntary contributions. This would not appear, on the face of it, to be a very happy augury for the future.