

reductions advocated by the Advisory Committee reflect the proper degree of balance and responsibility dictated by current exigencies and it is my intention to support generally the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

Mr. Chairman, the Canadian Government is disappointed that the third imperative of the consensus adopted by the Resumed 19th Session, namely the call for voluntary contributions, has to date met with limited success. My Delegation joins the Secretary-General in his urgent appeal for voluntary contributions. Any nation which makes a contribution thereby reaffirms its faith in the overriding value of the United Nations and in the ability of the United Nations to discharge its responsibilities.

While having agreed that the question of the applicability of Article 19 should not be raised with regard to UNEF and ONUC, the Canadian Government is unwavering in its belief that the interests of the Organization as a whole demand that the expenses of the regular budget should be shared by all member states and apportioned by the General Assembly. Furthermore, my Delegation believes that items which are now in the regular budget should remain there and should not be removed for the purpose of evading the principle of collective financial responsibility. At the same time we shall continue to be willing to explore practical solutions to outstanding budgetary problems. The removal of contentious items from the regular budget offers only illusory relief; it eventually leads to the emasculation of the Organization.

Mr. Chairman, as I have followed the deliberations of the Fifth Committee during the past month, I have been impressed by the workmanlike manner in which the Committee has attacked its duties. Underlying our debate has been an awareness that the Fifth Committee is a technical forum of experts and, as such, should be kept as immune as possible from the taint of polemics. I am not attempting to minimize basic differences in approach and in principle but, cutting across divisions of ideology and development, one senses that the great majority of delegations believes that the time is now ripe to take a fresh look at the financial procedures of the United Nations and to come to grips with old problems so as to ensure that the Organization will expand in the most efficient manner. Successive members of this Committee have spoken of the need for financial economies, planning, coordination, integration, priorities. This year, however, my Delegation is convinced that this list of fiscal virtues is not being recited perfunctorily; in the aftermath of the lost 19th Session, it is no longer possible to pay mere lipservice to distant financial goals. It is always much easier to subscribe to abstract principles than to abide by fixed rules but, at last, there appears to be a general desire to proceed to practical steps and concrete proposals.