

Perhaps the one factor which has contributed more than anything else to our past difficulties has been the lack of general agreement on the basic question of the procedures to be followed by the competent organs of the United Nations in the establishment, direction and financing of United Nations peace-keeping activities. While Resolution 1874 which was adopted last June was a step in the direction of clarifying certain of these procedures, it does not yet have the support of all Member States, nor is it completely adequate. Moreover, according to paragraph 1 of that resolution, the principles set forth in A are not applicable to existing operations. In spite of these factors my Delegation hopes we are approaching the time when we can dispense with provisional and partial expedients and can take a further step in developing a generally acceptable set of procedures to facilitate the Organization's ability to meet effectively its primary responsibilities as outlined in the Charter. However, in the meantime we are faced with another ad hoc financing arrangement.

Since the establishment of the force, assessments totalling more than 260 million dollars have been made and many individuals, including the late Dag Hammarskjöld, have made the supreme sacrifice. And so the United Nations has a considerable interest and investment in peace in the Congo. However, while the clouds of the recent storm over the Congo are beginning to disappear, it seems too soon to tell whether the skies will remain clear.

As a result of this uncertain situation the Congolese Government, as is its prerogative, has indicated that it would prefer to have the United Nations force remain in the Congo during the first six months of 1964. Understandably, this request has received the full support of the other African nations and my Delegation finds itself in sympathy with the view that it would be most unwise for the United Nations to risk unduly its monetary and human investment in the Congo operation by withdrawing its assistance before there are more positive indications that peace and stability may be maintained in that troubled land. It is for these reasons that my Delegation intends to support draft resolution A/C.5/L.793, which is