

participate in a duly authorized UN peacekeeping operation. This would be of course on the understanding that in each instance any Member State would reserve the right to decide whether it wished to participate in the specific operation being set up.

Given the willingness of Member States to make information of that kind available, the question arises as to how the Security Council might improve the capacity of this Organization to maintain peace and security. My Delegation, recognizing the primary responsibility of the Security Council in this field, thinks that it would be quite appropriate for the General Assembly to make some recommendations to the Security Council. We would hope the Council would give careful thought to such recommendations.

In his statement in the General Debate on September 23 our Secretary of State for External Affairs mentioned the following two possibilities:

- (i) that something should be done now to respond to the Secretary-General's 1964 proposal for a study of the means of improving peacekeeping preparations; and
- (ii) that it was perhaps time for the Security Council to re-examine the possibilities of negotiating agreements with Member States for the provision of armed forces, assistance and facilities, to be made available to the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

Regarding the first possibility my Delegation considers that it would now be desirable to recommend to the Council that a study of the kind suggested by the Secretary-General be authorized. This could be done without prejudice to the position of any Member State on the results of the study or the use of it. But the very exercise involved in making the study would be helpful in clarifying the existing situation.

As for the second possibility, it is of course for the Security Council to decide what, if anything, it wishes to do. There should be no objection however if this Assembly were to place on record its view that a re-examination of the possibilities under Article 43 would be useful. In putting this suggestion forward my Delegation is aware of the fact that from time to time over the last two years a number of delegations have expressed interest in that idea and that they might welcome the extra incentive which would be provided by General Assembly approval.

Under my third and final heading, Mr. Chairman, I will deal with highly controversial but extremely important constitutional questions: the authorization of peacekeeping