

a matter of continuing concern to my delegation. We are strongly convinced of the need to ensure that peacekeeping operations are undertaken as a useful, but temporary, method of leading towards the ultimate goal — i.e., the peaceful settlement of the disputes which made peace-keeping necessary in the first place.

I believe it is also worth noting the suggestions which have been made that the Military Staff Committee might again have a useful role to play. My delegation believes that the Military Staff Committee has been inactive long enough. The considerable expertise and knowledge of its members, and of those who might join them to carry out a specific task, should be made full use of to the advantage of the whole organization. Although provided for in Chapter VII of the Charter, the Military Staff Committee is not precluded by any specific provision of the Charter from doing work which could be of benefit both in the field of enforcement action, which falls clearly under Chapter VII, and in preparations for peacekeeping operations which are of a non-enforcement and voluntary nature.

Mr. President, I could not conclude this brief statement of our views and our intentions without mention of the continuing, and indeed growing, financial deficit afflicting this organization. A deficit does exist, and voluntary contributions to eliminate it are very much needed. This is what concerns us, not the question of where the responsibility for this situation should lie.

We are, of course, aware of the understandings — and the misunderstandings — which preceded and apparently follow the consensus of September 1, 1965. We do not wish to dispute the understandings which may have been reached, or to suggest the existence of understandings where none existed. But we do say this — this organization is in financial difficulties because of constitutional and political disagreements that we are now gradually trying to put aside. What member states must ask themselves is not what other delegations have said and done — or will say and do. They must ask themselves if they are prepared to respond to the consensus of September 1, 1965; to heed the call for voluntary contributions; to act and be treated in this area as the separate, respected sovereign states which they are. Canada pays its assessments under the regular budget and makes voluntary contributions to a variety of international programmes as well. Canada has also, along with 22 other states, made a voluntary contribution to help eliminate the United Nations deficit.

We now urge other member states that have not done so to consider what contribution they may make in response to the evident need and to the consensus reached at the nineteenth session of the General Assembly — a consensus which has been endorsed by Resolutions 2053 A(XX) and 2249 (S-V). It is now more than two years ago that the Secretary-General appealed to member states to make these necessary voluntary contributions so that the future could be faced with renewed hope and confidence. Let those who have not done so now do their part as a demonstration of their faith in the United Nations.