

... After these preliminary remarks on the resolution before us, I should like to introduce the resolution put forward by my Delegation in Document L.664. The resolution starts by recalling some of the main purposes of this organization. These are not spelled out in detail since, after all, all of us who are members of the organization are aware of the Charter and its purposes and, by our signature of the Charter, we have indicated that we adhere to them. We recall certain general purposes in order to indicate the scope of our organization: the maintenance of peace, the settlement of disputes, and international economic and social co-operation. These are great and far-reaching purposes, and the extent of the purposes of the organization should always be before us when we take actions which affect them. I come back to the theme which I have developed concerning the interdependence of the various activities of the organization.

In the second preambular paragraph the resolution recognizes that in order to fulfill purposes and principles, however noble, there must be adequate financial resources and orderly and generally recognized procedures to deal with the financial problems which result from the activities undertaken to fulfill these purposes.

The resolution goes on to recognize also that, despite the many efforts made over the years, the financial situation facing the organization has become more serious. This is a statement of fact which cannot be re-stated enough.

Passing on from this rather sombre recognition, we affirm a more optimistic belief: that the organization will continue to grow and develop and that the demands upon it will increase. An organization is viable in direct proportion to the demands made upon it and to the extent that these demands can be met successfully. This instrument which has grown out of the Charter, for all the shortcomings that one might attribute to it, is still a remarkable development. All of us can think of examples of how, on the political side, the organization has mitigated tensions and moderated feelings. On the economic and social co-operation side we can point to the large and growing number of successful programmes and projects which have in no small degree changed the lives of people in all countries of the world. We should pause and reflect most seriously before, in haste or with insufficient consideration, we attempt to impose financial and administrative procedures which bear directly on these activities.

In the first operative paragraph, the resolution places the Assembly on record as requesting an agenda item for the forthcoming Assembly, and the importance and urgency of the administrative and budgetary procedures of the organization is underlined. My Delegation has no intention of limiting the elements to be examined under this item, but we seek only to spell out some of the matters which might warrant particular attention. The two main elements to be examined are divided into two groups in operative Paragraph 1. Group (a) deals with the cost of peace-keeping operations of a kind for which the Assembly has set up special or ad hoc accounts. In Group (b) we ask for an examination of the relationship between possible new administrative and budgetary procedures to deal with the peace-keeping activities of the organization and the existing procedures of the organization.

In operative Paragraph 2, the resolution requests the President of the General Assembly to appoint a working group to look at both (a) and (b) mentioned in operative Paragraph 1. We have suggested that the working group might consist of nine members, since we believe that a small group would be able to give us a more compact report, but we recognize that in this organization of 99