

At the twenty-first session, this committee, and subsequently the General Assembly, unanimously adopted the report of the Ad Hoc Committee. My delegation feels that the recommendations contained in the report will be remembered as a highly significant step in the reassessment of United Nations procedures. We believe that if this Organization is going to fulfill effectively the tasks before it, then the fullest possible implementation of this report is essential.

The question, indeed the approach, of reassessment, is particularly significant as we approach the end of the first Development Decade. The tasks we have undertaken, the objectives we support and the goals we seek are all embodied in the concept of a Development Decade. As we become increasingly aware of the complex nature of the task of economic and social development, we also become increasingly conscious of the need to improve in every way possible the efficiency of our Organization. Thus, when the Secretary-General points out, as he did in his forward to the budget estimates for 1968 that, and I quote, "the total demands to be made on the United Nations are far in excess of the resources which can reasonably be made available" he is restating a fundamental economic principle, namely that choices have to be made and that it is mandatory that we make the best possible use of the limited resources at our disposal. It is for this reason that we have supported a general reassessment of our administrative and budgetary procedures and it is with this attitude that we would hope that the United Nations will proceed.

I said at the outset that the United Nations is at a turning point this year in the administrative and budgetary field. Two years ago we began an important process of reassessment so that we might move forward with an organization better equipped to cope with the tasks before it.

Now, we have reached the point where we can begin to see the fruits of our reassessment in the implementation of some of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of 14. My delegation is pleased, for example, at the encouraging progress that has been made towards the establishment of the joint Inspection Unit along lines which should enable the Unit to function effectively. We trust that it will, in fact, be possible for the Unit to begin its work by the target date of January 1, 1968.

We are pleased that the Economic and Social Council reconstituted the former Special Committee on Co-ordination into the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in keeping with the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation. This Committee