

FOREWORD

BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

There is a perceptible trend today towards a renewed and more positive use of the United Nations. The Organization is being asked to expand its peace-making and peace-keeping role and there is a heightened understanding of the contribution which it can make to economic and social development.

This new situation has major implications for the future of the United Nations which need to be explored through innovative thinking and fresh approaches. The Roundtable on "The Future Role of the United Nations in an Interdependent World" held in Moscow in September 1988 on the initiative of UNITAR and the USSR United Nations Association was therefore most welcome.

I am pleased that UNITAR is now publishing the background papers prepared for the Roundtable, in addition to the Chairman's report on it. The present volume helps to identify some of the tasks before us in a increasingly interdependent world and puts forward valuable policy options for multilateral cooperation. For this, the organizers deserve our appreciation and gratitude.

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