The annual editions of the Yearbook of the United Nations constitute the major reference work of the Organization. They provide a year-by-year record of the multitude of activities which are dealt with in and through the United Nations and which are an indication of the complexity and variety of man's endeavours in his search for peace and security, for economic and social progress in larger freedom and for international justice. Each edition is designed to present, within the confines of a single, fully-indexed volume, a compact, authoritative account, for the period under review, of the deliberations and actions of the United Nations as well as of the activities of the inter-governmental agencies related to it.

This edition, the twentieth of its kind, covers the calendar year 1966. The fact that it is the largest so far published may be taken as a reflection of the growing role which international organization has come to play in the world in recent decades and which, I hope, it will continue to play.

It is my belief that, in chronicling the activities of the United Nations and the related agencies, the Yearbooks will be of value to those concerned about mankind's welfare in providing them with a storehouse of knowledge that will be useful in appraising essential elements in the development of organized co-operation and understanding among nations in this era of change.

U THANT
Secretary-General