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DECLARATION OF THE 1980s AS THE SECOND DISARMAMENT DECADE

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND
DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH
SPECIAL SESSION

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolutions
contained in documents A/C.1/35/L.34 and A/C.1/35/L.7

Fifteenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statements in documents A/C.5/35/77 and A/C.5/35/78 submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolutions contained in documents A/C.1/35/L.34 and A/C.1/35/L.7 respectively.

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.1/35/L.34

2. Pursuant to the operative paragraph of this draft resolution, which was adopted by the First Committee at its 43rd meeting, on 25 November 1980, the General Assembly would adopt the document entitled: "Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade" as set forth in the annex to the draft resolution.

3. The Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/35/77) has been prepared with particular reference to paragraph 20 of the annex to the draft resolution (see para. 3 of the statement). As indicated in paragraph 4 of his statement, the Secretary-General intends to carry out the following information activities during 1981 and 1982:

(a) To sponsor three seminars for non-governmental organizations in three regions: Latin America (Mexico City, 1981), Africa (Nairobi, 1981) and Asia (Bangkok, 1982);

(b) To publish eight issues of fact sheets on disarmament in 1981;

(c) To sponsor an international disarmament poster competition in 1981.

4. In section (b) of the table in paragraph 5 of his statement, the Secretary-General estimates the costs of the two seminars to be held in 1981 at \$88,400, in addition to the cost of conference services shown in section (a) of the table (\$79,600), as follows:

	<u>United States dollars</u>
Travel and subsistence of representatives of non-governmental organizations	56,900
Travel and subsistence of staff members of the Secretariat	19,800
Consultant services	11,700
Total	<u>88,400</u>

5. In considering these estimates, the Advisory Committee noted that the activities contemplated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 4 (a) of his statement correspond to activities already provided for in the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981 under the Centre for Disarmament (sect. 2B) and the External Relations Division of the Department of Public Information (sect. 27). ^{1/} The estimate of travel and subsistence of representatives of non-governmental organizations assumed that 25 representatives would attend each seminar. The Committee was informed that the number of 25 was tentative. Moreover, the Committee questions the need for two staff members for substantive work, in addition to the Assistant Secretary-General, to service meetings which it understands will last for only four days each. The Committee was also informed that the subjects to be discussed at the seminars had not yet been chosen. Accordingly, the Committee questions the estimate for consultants. For the foregoing reasons, the Committee recommends that the estimate of \$88,400 for the two seminars to be held in 1981 shown in section (b) of the table in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's statement should be reduced by \$28,400 to \$60,000.

6. In paragraph 6 of his statement, the Secretary-General estimates at \$103,600 the cost of publishing eight issues of fact sheets on disarmament in 1981. The Committee has been informed that existing budgetary appropriations which will be available to the Centre for Disarmament in 1981 include \$117,400 for external printing and

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth session, Supplement No. 6 (A/34/6 and errata and Add.1), paras. 2.38, 2.39 and 27.72.

translation. The Committee recommends that consideration be given to whether the same public information impact could be achieved were the fact sheets to be published four times (i.e., every three months) per year. Furthermore, the Committee is of the opinion that the costs of reproduction and distribution can be met from within resources already available. For these reasons, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Secretary-General's estimate in paragraph 6 of his statement should be reduced by \$53,600 to \$50,000.

7. In paragraph 7 of his statement, the Secretary-General estimates at a total of \$33,500 the cost of sponsoring an international poster competition. With prudent management and a view to economy, the Advisory Committee believes this estimate can be reduced by \$13,500 to \$20,000.

8. In paragraph 8 of his statement, the Secretary-General cites the need for two temporary posts (P-5 and G-4/3). The estimate of \$73,900 corresponds to 12 months for each post with no provision for delayed recruitment. The Advisory Committee was informed that permanent posts already available to the Information and Research Section of the Centre for Disarmament include one D-1, two P-5, four P-4, one P-2, one G-5 and four G-3/4. The Centre also has \$106,000 for consultants. In view of these resources, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of a lump-sum provision of \$40,000.

9. For the reasons given in paragraphs 5 to 8 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution in document A/C.1/35/L.34, recommended by the First Committee, an additional appropriation of \$150,000 would be required under section 2B and \$20,000 under section 27 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981. In addition, an amount of \$8,000 for staff assessment would have to be appropriated under section 31, to be offset by an equivalent amount of income under income section 1. The Committee notes that conference-servicing requirements in an estimated amount of \$79,600 for 1981 under section 29 (see A/C.5/35/77, paras. 5 and 10) are based on full cost and that actual requirements will be reflected in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly.

Administrative and financial implications of the draft
resolution contained in document A/C.1/35/L.7

10. This draft resolution was adopted by the First Committee at its 45th meeting, on 26 November 1980. The relevant provisions of the draft resolution are described by the Secretary-General in paragraph 2 of his statement (A/C.5/35/78).

11. Estimates of the financial implications of the preparatory activities envisaged for the second special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament are contained in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's statement. As can be seen from that paragraph, conference-servicing requirements, on the basis of full costs, are estimated at \$1,192,000 for 1981.

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12. The Advisory Committee notes that the estimate of conference-servicing costs includes the cost of summary records in five languages. The request for summary records is contained in operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution. In this connexion, the Committee draws attention to the fact that, pursuant to paragraph 1 of section B of General Assembly resolution 35/10 of 3 November 1980, the provision of summary records to a newly established subsidiary organ of the General Assembly requires approval by the Assembly of an explicit exception to resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979.

13. In paragraph 4 (b) of his statement, the Secretary-General indicates that two Professional (one P-5, one P-4) and three General Service temporary posts would be needed in 1981 to assist in the preparation of the background documentation for the Preparatory Committee and for the special session and to assist in substantive servicing of the Preparatory Committee and its drafting bodies. The related estimate of \$156,300 corresponds to 12 work-months for each post without any delayed recruitment deductions.

14. The Advisory Committee understands that the work referred to in paragraph 4 (b) of the Secretary-General's statement will be co-ordinated by the Committee and Conference Services Section of the Centre for Disarmament. The Advisory Committee was informed that established posts already available to this Section comprise one D-2, one D-1, two P-5, three P-4, two P-3, one G-5 and three G-3/4. In view of the existing resources, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly should approve 12 work-months at the P-4 level and 12 work-months at the General Service level in 1981 at an estimated cost of \$65,100 net.

15. Consequently, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/35/L.7, recommended by the First Committee, an additional appropriation of \$65,100 would be required under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981. Furthermore, an amount of \$15,000 for staff assessment would be required under section 31, to be offset by an equivalent amount of income from staff assessment under income section 1. The Committee notes that the extent to which the conference-servicing costs for 1981 can be absorbed from within existing resources will be indicated in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted by the Secretary-General towards the close of the current session of the General Assembly.
