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ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS WITH THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND
THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Carl C. PEDERSEN (Canada)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1980, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the following item:

"Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency:

"(a) Administrative budgets of the specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

"(b) Impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system: report of the Secretary-General"

and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/34/684) submitted by that Committee pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 14 (I) of 13 February 1946, which provides that one of the functions of the Advisory Committee is "to examine on behalf of the General Assembly the administrative budgets of specialized agencies and proposals for financial arrangements with such agencies", consideration of which had been postponed to the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly under the terms of decision 34/436 of 17 December 1979;

(b) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/35/481 and Add.1) also submitted by that Committee in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 14 (I);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system (A/C.5/33/47), consideration of which had been postponed to the thirty-fourth session of the General Assembly under the terms of resolution 33/116 B, section VI, of 21 December 1978, and again to the thirty-fifth session under the terms of decision 34/437 of 17 December 1979.

3. The Fifth Committee considered this item at its 18th, 22nd to 25th, 27th and 30th meetings, on 16, 22 to 24, 27 and 29 October and 4 November 1980. Comments and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/35/SR.18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27 and 30).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

4. At the 27th meeting, on 29 October, the Chairman of the Committee submitted a draft resolution (A/C.5/35/L.18) which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Concerned with the growing need for effective administrative and budgetary co-ordination within the framework of the United Nations system,

"Recalling its decision taken at its 2440th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1975, to consider in depth the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" normally in off-budget years, 1/

"Having considered with appreciation the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, 2/

"1. Concurs with the observations and comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in its report;

"2. Refers to the organizations concerned the observations and comments contained in that report;

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/10034), p. 146, item 98.

2/ A/34/684; A/35/481 and Add.1.

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to refer to the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, matters arising out of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions which call for their attention and necessary action;

"4. Urges the International Fund for Agricultural Development to respond to the request contained in paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the timely submission of the Fund's administrative budgets;

"5. Transmits the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the Board of Auditors, the Panel of External Auditors, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Joint Inspection Unit for their information;

"6. Reiterates the request addressed to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 5 of its resolution 33/142."

5. At the 30th meeting, on 4 November, the Chairman of the Committee introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.5/35/L.18/Rev.1), which had been formulated after informal consultations. The revisions to the original draft resolution were as follows:

(a) In the second line of operative paragraph 1, the word "report" was changed to "reports";

(b) In the second line of operative paragraph 2, the words "that report" were changed to "those reports";

(c) In the same paragraph, after the words "those reports", the words "as well as the comments and observations made in the course of the debate in the Fifth Committee" were added;

(d) In the third line of operative paragraph 3, the word "report" was changed to "reports";

(e) In the third line of the same paragraph, after the words "Advisory Committee", the words "and of the related debate in the Fifth Committee" were added;

(f) In the second line of operative paragraph 6, after the words "resolution 33/142", the phrase "to give greater emphasis in its future reports on administrative and budgetary co-ordination to budgetary developments in individual organizations which are of potential interest to other organizations and to supplement those annual reports with reports on specific problems common to the United Nations system" was added.

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6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/35/L.18/Rev.1 without objection (see para. 8).

B. Impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system

7. At its 27th meeting, on 29 October, the Committee decided, without objection, to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system (A/C.5/33/47) and that it should decide to inscribe this question on the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session (see para. 9).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Concerned with the growing need for effective administrative and budgetary co-ordination within the framework of the United Nations system,

Recalling its decision taken at its 2440th plenary meeting, on 15 December 1975, to consider in depth the item entitled "Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" normally in off-budget years, 3/

Having noted with appreciation the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, 4/

1. Concurs with the observations and comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in its reports;

2. Refers to the organizations concerned the observations and comments contained in those reports, as well as the comments and observations made in the course of the debate in the Fifth Committee;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/10034), p. 146, item 98.

4/ A/34/684; A/35/481 and Add.1.

3. Requests the Secretary-General to refer to the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, matters arising out of the reports of the Advisory Committee and of the related debate in the Fifth Committee which call for their attention and necessary action;

4. Urges the International Fund for Agricultural Development to respond to the request contained in paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee 5/ concerning the timely submission of the Fund's administrative budgets;

5. Transmits the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the Board of Auditors, the Panel of External Auditors, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Joint Inspection Unit for their information;

6. Reiterates the request addressed to the Advisory Committee in paragraph 5 of its resolution 33/142 to give greater emphasis in its future reports on administrative and budgetary co-ordination to budgetary developments in individual organizations which are of potential interest to other organizations and to supplement those annual reports with reports on specific problems common to the United Nations system.

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9. The Fifth Committee also recommends that the General Assembly should:

(a) Take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system; 6/

(b) Decide to include this question on the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session.

5/ A/35/481 and Add.1.

6/ A/C.5/33/47.