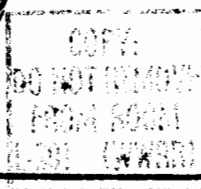




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FIFTH COMMITTEE

57th meeting

held on

Monday, 30 November 1981

at 10.30 a.m.

New York

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 57th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. ABDALLA (Sudan)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and  
Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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**Distr. GENERAL**

A/C.5/36/SR.57

9 December 1981

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 100: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983 (continued)

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/36/L.18 concerning agenda item 28 (A/C.5/36/60)

1. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that draft resolution A/36/L.18 would have the General Assembly approve the convening of the eleventh, final decision-making session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea from 8 March to 30 April 1982, authorize an extension beyond that date should it prove necessary for the completion of the work of the Conference, authorize the Drafting Committee of the Conference to meet at Headquarters from 18 January to 26 February 1982, and request the Secretary-General to provide the Conference with the necessary facilities, including facilities for informal consultations. If the Conference completed its work, the signing of the Final Act and the opening of the Convention for signature would take place at Caracas, Venezuela, in early September 1982.
2. The costs of conference-servicing, temporary assistance and travel related to the eleventh session of the Conference were described in paragraphs 2 to 9 of the Secretary-General's statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/36/60). Conference-servicing requirements were estimated at \$4,601,100 on a full-cost basis. The Secretary-General had informed the Advisory Committee that, in order to accommodate the eleventh session at New York, sessions of the International Civil Service Commission, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the meeting of Experts on the United Nations Programme on Public Administration and Finance would have to be moved to Geneva, resulting in additional expenditure of \$28,300 net for travel and subsistence and conference-servicing costs not exceeding \$640,600, as detailed in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's statement. The cost of temporary assistance for the Conference secretariat and the Department of Public Information was estimated at \$136,800 and \$55,200 respectively.
3. In paragraphs 10 and 11 of his statement, the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that he was not able at the present time to estimate the requirements for the final session of the Conference and that he would enter into the necessary commitments with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee under the provisions of the resolution to be adopted on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1982-1983.
4. In paragraphs 12 to 16 of his statement, the Secretary-General described the requirements for the Secretariat of the Conference. Information on temporary posts requested for 1982 was provided in paragraph 12. In paragraph 13 the Secretary-General requested authority to reclassify one P-3 post to P-4, one P-4 post to P-5 and one P-5 post to D-1. Having heard the explanations provided by the representatives of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee concurred in the proposed reclassifications.
5. In paragraphs 17 to 23, the Secretary-General provided details regarding public information activities to be undertaken in connexion with the Conference,

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(Mr. Mselle, ACABQ)

including those which would arise because of the completion of its work. However, additional appropriations were not being requested at the current stage for the financial requirements relating to the final session of the Conference, and the Secretary-General stated in paragraph 23 that he was seeking authority to commit funds for that purpose in the same manner as proposed in paragraph 11 of his statement. An amount of \$141,400 was requested at the current stage for the preparation of a press kit.

6. The Advisory Committee had accepted the Secretary-General's recommendations and therefore proposed that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that adoption of the draft resolution in document A/36/L.18 would give rise to additional expenditure totalling \$1,940,800 as summarized in paragraph 24 of the Secretary-General's statement. An additional appropriation of \$383,900 would also be required under section 31 of the programme budget (staff assessment) to be offset by an equal amount under income section 1. Conference-servicing costs estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$4,601,100, and an amount of \$640,600 relating to the change in venue of various meetings from New York to Geneva would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be taken up towards the end of the session.

7. The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted.

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee in document A/C.2/36/L.108 concerning agenda item 69 (c)  
(A/C.5/36/61)

8. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee would have the General Assembly decide to establish an interim committee of the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology and request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to convene the interim committee during the first quarter of 1982. The Secretary-General of the United Nations assumed that the meeting of the interim committee would take place in Geneva and estimated that an amount not exceeding \$590,900 would arise for conference-servicing costs. That amount would be considered at a later stage in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements.

9. The Secretary-General of UNCTAD would also be requested to convene a fifth session of the United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology in the last quarter of 1982 or the first quarter of 1983. The Secretary-General of the United Nations assumed that the fifth session of the Conference would be held in Geneva and estimated that, if it was held in 1982, conference-servicing costs would be \$772,700; if it was to be held in 1983, the cost would be \$810,700.

10. The Fifth Committee was concerned at the current stage with conference-servicing costs for 1982. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should be informed that adoption of the draft resolution would give rise to conference-servicing costs not exceeding \$590,900 for the interim committee and \$772,700 for the fifth session of the Conference, if convened in

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(Mr. Mselle, ACABQ)

1982. However, if it was not convened in 1982, the related conference-servicing costs would be considered at the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

11. The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted.

12. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had no objection in principle to the adoption of the Advisory Committee's recommendation without a vote. However, he wished to reaffirm his delegation's position, as put forward in the Second Committee, to the effect that the measures outlined in the Secretary-General's statement should be financed from within existing resources allocated for UNCTAD and should not give rise to any additional appropriations.

13. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said that, had the Advisory Committee's recommendation been put to a vote, his delegation would have abstained. His delegation's position on the substance of the item had been set forth in some detail in the Second Committee. He was unable to support any additional appropriations for the activities planned under the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee and believed that any conference-servicing costs should be met from within the existing appropriations or from savings achieved through the termination of activities that were obsolete, ineffective or of marginal usefulness. His delegation believed that several UNCTAD activities fell in those categories.

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Sixth Committee in document A/C.6/36/L.8 concerning agenda item 115 (A/C.5/36/62)

14. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee would continue in existence the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries. Conference-servicing costs not exceeding \$613,100 would arise and would be included in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be considered at a later stage. The Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should be so informed.

15. The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted.

16. Mr. BOUZARBIA (Algeria), referring to paragraph 4 (a) of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/36/62), said that his delegation had requested in the Committee on Conferences that the start of the Ad Hoc Committee's work in January, 1982 should be delayed by one week, or at the very least by one or two days. The representative of the Department of Conference Services had given assurances at that time that it should be possible to accommodate that request. He expressed the hope that the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee could be rescheduled accordingly.

17. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said that, had the Advisory Committee's recommendation been put to a vote, his delegation would have abstained

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(Mr. Papendorp, United States)

because it considered that the procedure for dealing with conference-servicing costs was not adequate to the Fifth Committee's purposes and that the Committee had in effect given its approval to something without knowing what the actual cost would be.

18. He wondered whether the proposed change in scheduling would alter the statement made by the Secretary-General's representative in the Committee on Conferences that, because of the relatively light schedule of meetings in the early part of the year, it was expected that the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee would not give rise to additional costs.

19. Mr. BEGIN (Director, Budget Division) said that January was a relatively quiet month with regard to conference activities. Thus, it should be possible to absorb the costs of rescheduling the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee without difficulty.

AGENDA ITEM 105: PATTERN OF CONFERENCES (continued) (A/36/32 and Corr.1, A/36/167 and Add.1 and 2)

(a) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES

(b) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

AGENDA ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK (continued) (A/36/122 and Corr.1; A/C.5/36/22)

(b) SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

20. Mr. HICKEY (Australia) commended the Committee on Conferences for making its report available in English so early: its example should be followed in the case of other bodies for whose reports the Fifth Committee had to wait before it could discharge its duties.

21. His delegation agreed whole-heartedly with the contention that formal meeting records frequently impeded the free flow of informal negotiations, introducing undesirable rigidity. It had abstained on the resolution, adopted at the thirty-fifth session, reintroducing summary records for a series of subsidiary bodies (resolution 35/10 B) on the ground that the Committee on Conferences should rule on the necessity of summary records for subsidiary bodies. The resolution had been adopted on the understanding that the bodies involved would exercise restraint in their demands for documentation. He wondered if there had been any appreciable indication that restraint was being exercised, but suspected not. He looked forward, nevertheless, to the report on the matter by the Committee on Conferences at the thirty-seventh session, and hoped to see evidence by then of the requisite efforts.

22. There was a need for greater punctuality in the conduct of meetings. Future reports of the Committee on Conferences should include a public account of the time lost during the session of the General Assembly through unnecessary delays in the start of meetings. Delegations should keep their statements short; in his own Parliament, for example, speakers could exceed a fixed time-limit only if the majority of the House had no objection. The United Nations should try to discipline

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(Mr. Hickey, Australia)

itself in the same way. If lengthy statements were necessary, they could be distributed and summarized for inclusion in the official records, while only résumés were presented orally.

23. The European Economic Community and the Nordic countries should be commended for their efforts to facilitate the work of the Fifth Committee by presenting common positions. Although a lot of work was involved in preparing such statements, there should be scope for other groups of countries, either regional or like-minded, to take similar action. And it should be remembered that if delegations asked for more documentation, the Secretariat had to produce it. The Department of Conference Services should not always be blamed for delays — it could only do so much. It was up to the membership of the Organization to exercise restraint in requesting documentation.

24. Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco) said he was in favour of the idea of group statements, but that the suggestion regarding shorter statements might be difficult to implement. He observed that the developed countries generally spoke at greater length in committees than the developing countries, although the latter were doing their best to change matters. The problem must be recognized and meeting-time distributed more evenly between the two categories of States.

25. He was pleased to note from paragraphs 12 and 13 of the report of the Committee on Conferences (A/36/32) that all the changes requested in the calendar of conferences had been effected without giving rise to additional financial implications. His delegation was disturbed nonetheless at the disruption caused by such changes, especially when they were unwarranted. It was encouraged at the prospect that the sessions of some bodies could be reduced in length. At the same time, it must stress that the Organization could not carry out its role fully if efforts to collaborate were frustrated and conference diplomacy was jeopardized. As for the proposed calendar of conferences for the biennium 1982-1983, time must be allowed for such bodies as UNDP, UNICEF and UNEP to submit their reports to the Economic and Social Council.

26. The time had come for the Fifth Committee to concentrate on finding the most economical and efficient means of inducing the General Assembly and the Secretariat to identify documentation that was actually serviceable and useful. The millions of pages produced by the Secretariat certainly did not make the task of delegations easier. Confused, vague and wordy documents were a burden on representatives and a wasted effort by the Secretariat. Worse, the Secretariat was getting more and more negligent in preparing for conferences: increasingly mediocre documents, drawn up at high speed and submitted late for translation and reproduction, afforded grounds for questioning the efficiency of the international civil servant. There could no longer be any doubt that delays in the issue of documents were due primarily to the failure of the substantive departments to meet deadlines. In that connexion, his delegation supported the recommendations made by JIU in paragraph 41 of its report (A/36/34), particularly subparagraphs (c), (d), (e) and (g).

27. The comments of the Secretary-General in document A/36/167/Add.2 provided a useful source of ideas. That was particularly true of the observations in

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(Mr. Lahlou, Morocco)

paragraphs 8 to 10 concerning the multilingual systems of issuing verbatim records in use at UNESCO and FAO. As to summary records, there could be no doubt that they were very useful if issued promptly. The current delays in their publication were inexcusable and were attributable, in the view of many delegations, to the failure of the Department of Conference Services to comply with a strict schedule. If pre-session work had to be done during the session, it was hardly surprising that the *précis*-writing and translation services were overburdened and that documentation for the session was subject to annoying delays. The Venezuelan delegation had advanced some useful suggestions in that regard, to which his delegation fully subscribed. Although the Venezuelan proposal to establish an *ad hoc* group of experts to consider the problem might seem paradoxical at a time when the Committee on Conferences was trying to halt the proliferation of United Nations bodies, such a group would undoubtedly point the way towards greater efficiency and austerity. No one wanted to limit the role of the Organization or deprive it of the resources necessary to accomplish its tasks, but no one was prepared to tolerate waste or the ineffective use of resources.

28. Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia) said that his delegation had always opposed conference-related measures designed to inhibit the international community from settling its problems by means of constructive dialogue. There was, however, a physical limit to the conference-servicing and document-producing capacity of the United Nations, and that limit was not far distant. Also, the wastage of resources due to the cancellation, late starts and early endings of meetings had reached alarming proportions. The cardinal aim must be to provide better conference management and stricter regulation of documents and to eliminate waste to the extent possible.

29. The General Assembly had taken a number of decisions on conferences and documentation. All that was needed was to put them fully into practice. In that task the Committee on Conferences, the officers of committees and the committee secretaries could all play a crucial role. The new functions conferred on the Committee on Conferences by resolution 35/10 were already bearing fruit. Consultations between the Committee Chairman and subsidiary bodies of the United Nations had also produced progress, but it seemed that some officers still viewed the functioning of their respective bodies in isolation from the problems facing the Organization as a whole. It might be useful to prepare a booklet containing all the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and to send it to the officers of all subsidiary bodies and of the Main Committees of the Assembly at the beginning of their sessions. From time to time the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences and the Under-Secretary-General for Conference Services and Special Assignments should be given an opportunity to explain to the officers concerned the problems which the Organization faced in the area of conference servicing and documentation.

30. While the chairmen and membership of committees changed, committee secretaries remained, and it was their duty to ensure continuity, to draw attention to the relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, and to campaign actively against waste. His delegation would support any measure to mobilize committee secretaries in an effort to ensure that General Assembly resolutions and decisions on conferences and documentation were put into practice.

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(Mr. Brotodiningrat, Indonesia)

31. The preparation of common positions by groups of Member States often resulted in economies for the Organization. The group approach, including the necessary conference servicing, was part and parcel of the decision-making process in the United Nations. Conference servicing for regional and informal groups was not only appropriate but essential. With those observations, his delegation was prepared to endorse the recommendations of the Committee on Conferences.

AGENDA ITEM 102: FINANCIAL EMERGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS (continued)  
(A/36/701; A/C.5/36/28 and Corr.1 and 2; A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1)

32. Mr. GREN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) expressed strong opposition to the draft resolution contained in document A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1, which established an unwarranted connexion between arrears in contributions for United Nations armed forces and the application of Article 19 of the Charter. The claim that arrears in respect of peace-keeping operations fell within the ambit of Article 19 was directly at variance with the provisions of the Charter and the consensus reached by the General Assembly on the matter in 1965. The words "the expenses of the Organization" as used in Article 17 clearly referred only to spending under the regular budget, as approved by the General Assembly. Expenditures for the maintenance of United Nations armed forces enjoyed a special status, in that they stemmed from action by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, and could not, accordingly, be included in the regular budget. The extent of such expenditures had to be determined and governed by Chapter VII, which was entirely unrelated to the provisions of Article 19: in that, the Charter was unambiguous.

33. The draft resolution attempted to forge a link between Article 19 and the arrears of the People's Republic of China in respect of its contributions for peace-keeping operations. If one set aside all the aspects of the draft which were at variance with the Charter, it became clear that China's arrears were not such as to provide legal grounds for invoking Article 19; the General Assembly did not need to take any kind of decision on the matter, and the draft resolution was thus superfluous.

34. If approved, the draft resolution would call into question the clear provision in the Charter that Article 19 did not apply to the costs of United Nations armed forces; it would unjustly contradict the consensus reached in 1965; and it would in effect legitimize attempts, contrary to the Charter, to impose a financial burden on Member States for a number of illegal expenditures by the Organization. It would also set a dangerous precedent and create many political and financial difficulties for all Member States. His delegation wished to refute any such attempts, and would vote against the draft resolution.

35. Mr. MARTORELL (Peru) said that the draft resolution, of which his delegation was a sponsor, represented a compromise position. Special political circumstances had made the United Nations peace-keeping forces necessary, and special political means must now be found of dealing with the growing financial deficit. He hoped that other States currently withholding their contributions would follow the Chinese example, which was a source of satisfaction to his delegation beyond any specifically political considerations and should be encouraged by any delegation which was anxious to help the Organization overcome its financial problems.



36. Mr. DIA (Senegal) and Mr. CHIRWA (Djibouti) announced that they wished to become sponsors of the draft resolution.

37. Mr. NAGAGGA (Uganda) announced that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

38. Mr. OKLEŠTEK (Czechoslovakia) said it was clear that draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1, far from helping to resolve the financial emergency of the United Nations, lent unjustifiable support to activities which had been undertaken in contravention of the Charter and which had placed such a burden on the Organization. The reference in paragraph 4 to Article 19 of the Charter was inappropriate, in that it might establish a precedent which could be used against those Member States which declined to take part in peace-keeping operations. His delegation was opposed to the draft resolution and any attempts which might be made to use it, if it was adopted, against States Members of the United Nations.

39. The CHAIRMAN announced that Somalia had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution and that a recorded vote had been requested.

40. Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco) said that his delegation supported the draft resolution, since it represented an attempt to solve the financial emergency of the United Nations. It was gratifying that China had changed its attitude towards the financing of peace-keeping operations, a change which demonstrated political courage. It should be recalled that China had been over-assessed in the past.

41. His delegation considered that peace-keeping forces had a sound legal basis and was therefore pleased that China had joined those countries which saw such forces as a necessary and important element in the role of the United Nations. His delegation had certain reservations over the continuing role of certain peace-keeping forces, but in general supported them whole-heartedly.

42. Mr. MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) said that wherever there was tension and instability in the world it was beneficial to have a buffer force which could freeze the situation while attempts were made to resolve the problem. Yet the effectiveness of United Nations peace-keeping forces had often been impaired by the difficulties pertaining to their financing, which had led to the financial emergency of the United Nations. His country had always contributed to the upkeep of such forces, and was gratified that China had decided to support them too. His delegation would thus vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1. China's decision to make a voluntary contribution of \$5 million to the United Nations to help ease the financial emergency was also welcome, and should serve as an example for other Governments.

43. Mr. GUBSCI (Hungary) said that Article 19 of the Charter did not apply to peace-keeping forces, and the exception made in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution was completely anomalous. The draft resolution, if adopted, could establish a precedent which might lead to further deviations from the Charter.

44. Mr. ZINIEL (Ghana) said that his delegation supported the Charter and hence attempts to maintain international peace and security. His country had

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(Mr. Ziniel, Ghana)

participated in the peace-keeping operations in the Congo and the Middle East. Although such peace-keeping operations could only be temporary, they served to defuse explosive situations.

45. Peace-keeping operations should be supported by all Member States, especially the members of the Security Council. The Council bore the main responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, and failure of its members to discharge their obligations merely prolonged conflicts. His delegation was thus pleased that China had decided to support peace-keeping operations in the Middle East. The fact that China and certain other countries had withheld their contributions for peace-keeping operations meant that the cost of such operations had been borne entirely by the countries which had mounted them. However, unlike the other Member States involved, China's contribution to the regular budget had been over-assessed in the past, and that was a mitigating circumstance. China's contribution of \$5 million would not fully offset the effect of the withholding of contributions by Member States but it would certainly alleviate the situation.

46. His delegation supported the concept of equity implied in the draft resolution, and could accept paragraph 4 in the light of the factors stated in paragraphs 1 and 2. China's decision to pay contributions with effect from January 1982 would help the United Nations and would mean that China itself was playing its full role, as a member of the Security Council, in promoting international peace and security.

47. Mr. GODFREY (New Zealand) said that his delegation supported the concept of the collective responsibility of Member States for the financing of peace-keeping operations. It was pleasing that China had decided to contribute its share of assessed expenses for UNDOF and UNIFIL with effect from 1 January 1982, and that it had adopted a positive attitude towards future peace-keeping operations. The special circumstances pertaining to China justified the measures contained in the draft resolution, which in no way established a precedent with regard to the arrears of other Member States. The voluntary contribution of \$5 million to be paid by China was welcome. His delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1.

48. Mr. HICKEY (Australia) said that his delegation welcomed China's decision to contribute to the cost of peace-keeping operations. It would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

49. It was to be hoped that other Member States which had withheld contributions would follow the example set by China. The voluntary payment of \$5 million indicated a willingness to support United Nations peace-keeping operations. In fact, Member States were obliged by the Charter to meet the cost of such operations. Nevertheless, as had been demonstrated in the case of China, there was a need for flexibility.

50. Mr. BUNC (Yugoslavia) said that his country contributed towards the cost of peace-keeping forces and thus supported the draft resolution. The decision taken by China was welcome.

51. Mr. TUNSALA (Zaire) said that the decision by China to support peace-keeping operations demonstrated political courage and should be welcomed by all peace-loving countries.

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52. Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada) said that his delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1. Paragraph 4 of the draft resolution pertained to the second part of Article 19 of the Charter, whereby the General Assembly might permit a Member which was in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to vote if it was satisfied that the failure to pay was due to conditions beyond the control of the Member. The special circumstances in the case of China included the reduction in China's rate of assessment, its undertaking to pay its share of assessed expenses for UNDOF and UNIFIL and its voluntary contribution of \$5 million. The draft resolution was not in contravention of the mandatory nature of Article 19 and the collective responsibility of Member States to pay for peace-keeping operations. His delegation welcomed China's decision to pay its assessed contributions and to support peace-keeping operations in future and believed that it would help to bring about the financial stability of the United Nations in the long term.

52a. A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1.

In favour: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Burma, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam.

Abstaining: Ethiopia, Spain.

53. Draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.14/Rev.1 was adopted by 94 votes to 12 with 2 abstentions.

54. Mr. BRODININGRAT (Indonesia) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, since paragraph 3 reflected a positive development in China's position on the financing of peace-keeping operations which could generate the momentum necessary to resolve the question. Nevertheless, his delegation was concerned over paragraph 1, since China's rate of assessment had been determined in accordance with its own will, so that there had been no question of over-assessment.

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55. Mr. BETTENCOURT BUENO (Brazil) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, in appreciation of China's efforts to help the United Nations to solve the difficulties facing UNDOF and UNIFIL.

56. Mr. PAL (India) said that India was a party to the consensus of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations adopted by the General Assembly in 1965. His delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, since it used the language of the consensus and did not go beyond it, and since it had taken account of the Chinese undertaking to participate in the financing of UNDOF and UNIFIL from January 1982 onwards. His delegation's affirmative vote had been cast on the understanding that the draft resolution would not affect the application of Article 19 of the Charter and that it would not be cited as a precedent for waiving that Article.

57. Mr. STUART (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the ten States Members of the European Economic Community (EEC), said that peace-keeping operations were important to the United Nations. The decision by China to take a positive attitude towards such operations was important in helping the Organization to play an effective role. The EEC countries welcomed those developments and had voted in favour of the draft resolution.

58. Nevertheless, financial responsibility for peace-keeping operations, authorized under the Charter, should, in accordance with Article 17 of the Charter, be borne by the Members as apportioned by the General Assembly. Article 19 was mandatory, but it granted the General Assembly the possibility of allowing Member States which were in arrears to vote. The EEC countries construed paragraph 4 as an application of that provision of Article 19. The provision should be applied only on the basis of all the relevant factors, which, in the case of China, included its decision to pay its share of assessed expenses for UNDOF and UNIFIL, the rate of assessment referred to paragraph 1 of the draft resolution and its voluntary contribution of \$5 million. The EEC countries particularly appreciated the voluntary payment of \$5 million, which demonstrated a positive attitude towards peace-keeping operations.

59. Mr. SAGRERA said that China's decision to make a voluntary contribution was a positive development. Nevertheless, Article 19 had been waived for the first time, and for that reason his delegation had abstained in the vote.

60. Mr. MIYAKAWA (Japan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution. Japan welcomed the positive attitude adopted by China towards peace-keeping operations. The United Nations had to solve the problem of its financial deficit, especially with regard to peace-keeping operations and should, perhaps, review the mechanism for reimbursing those countries which made troops available. The problem of withheld contributions had to be solved. Article 19 of the Charter was important and should be applied. Those countries which still refused to pay their contributions for peace-keeping operations should reconsider their position and follow the example set by China.

61. Mr. LOSCHNER (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation trusted that the adoption of the draft resolution would provide an incentive to other Member States to discontinue their policy of withholding contributions.

62. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said that his delegation welcomed China's announced intention to accept its future financial responsibilities, although it would have preferred to have seen a full settlement by China of its arrears. The United States had voted in favour of the draft resolution since it saw the arrangement contained therein as being unique and as not modifying the principle of collective financial responsibility. That view had been confirmed by the International Court of Justice. Furthermore, the draft resolution could not be construed as amending the Charter in any way.

The meeting rose at 1.20 p.m.