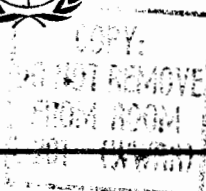


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FIFTH COMMITTEE
80th meeting
held on
Wednesday, 16 December 1981
at 8 p.m.
New York



SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 80th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. BRODODININGRAT (Indonesia)

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

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

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

Report of the Committee of Governmental Experts to Evaluate the Present
Structure of the Secretariat in the Administrative, Financial and Personnel
Areas (continued)

Special review of the ongoing work programme of the United Nations

Administrative and financial implications of the recommendations of the
Committee on Programme and Co-ordination in paragraphs 477 through 514 of
its report on its twenty-first session (continued)

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29 December 1981

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The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Economic Commission for Africa: regional institutes for population studies
(A/36/569, A/36/670; A/C.5/36/64)

1. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that at its 207th meeting, in March 1979, the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) had adopted resolution 367 (XIV) on regional training on population studies in Africa. The Secretary-General had been requested under the resolution to speed up the decentralization to ECA of the management of the regional institutes for population studies and demographic research in Accra and Yaoundé in line with General Assembly resolution 32/197. Those institutes had come into being in 1972 following the conclusion of agreements between the United Nations and the Governments of the Republic of Ghana and the United Republic of Cameroon. The Executive Secretary of ECA had also been requested under the resolution to initiate negotiations with the Governments of the two countries with a view to determining how the agreements governing the institutes could be modified to make them fully regional in character. As a result of those negotiations, two draft statutes had been submitted to the Conference of Ministers, which had considered them at its 217th meeting, in April 1981. The Conference of Ministers had decided at that time to transmit the statutes to the General Assembly for approval, through the Economic and Social Council. The relevant decision had been taken by the Economic and Social Council in July 1981 (decision 1981/189).
2. In reviewing the proposed statutes, the Advisory Committee had confined itself to the financial, administrative and personnel provisions which fell within the competence of the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee. The Advisory Committee had concluded that a number of matters dealt with in the statutes required further clarification. In particular, no clear picture emerged from the statutes of how the institutes would be financed, and the roles of the United Nations and UNFPA remained vague and undefined. It should be noted that articles 6 and 7 of the original agreements were quite explicit with regard to the respective financial responsibilities of the United Nations and the host Governments.
3. There was no mention in the proposed statutes of the status which the staff of the institutes would have. It was not clear whether the professional staff would be regarded as international staff of the United Nations. There also arose the question whether the staff of the institutes would be regarded as separate and distinct from the extrabudgetary staff of ECA. Nor was it clear who would be responsible for grading posts and establishing the manning tables.
4. Article 7, paragraph 2, of the proposed statutes provided that the Director of the Institute should act as the legal representative of the Institute. The meaning and implications of that provision were not clear. Article 7, paragraph 3 (e), provided that the Director should transmit to the Executive Secretary of ECA the

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names of all applicants for professional posts without mentioning the Director's power to make recommendations, as implied in article 6, paragraph 1 (b).

5. As indicated in paragraph 11 of its report (A/36/670), the Advisory Committee recommended that the statutes should be reviewed in the light of the observations in its report and taking into account such other views as might be expressed in the Fifth Committee and the views of the Office of Legal Affairs, the Office of Personnel Services and the Office of Financial Services. Pending such a review, action would have to be taken to extend the existing arrangements for the institutes.

6. Mr. ZINIEL (Ghana), supported by Mr. SUEDI (United Republic of Tanzania), said that the institutes in question provided useful services to two major language groups in Africa. He regretted that, as pointed out by the Advisory Committee, the proposed statutes referred to the General Assembly by the ECA Conference of Ministers had a number of short-comings with regard to the financing and personnel arrangements, and he agreed with the Advisory Committee that the statutes should be reviewed. He hoped that the review would not delay consideration of the proposed statutes by the Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. Accordingly, he proposed that the statutes should be referred back directly to the ECA Conference of Ministers so as to ensure that they would be resubmitted to the Assembly in good time.

7. The CHAIRMAN suggested that, since ECA was in fact a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council and the Council would be holding an organizational session in January, it should be possible to adopt the Advisory Committee's recommendation as it stood. It could then be proposed at the organizational session that the statutes should be referred immediately to the ECA Conference of Ministers.

8. Mr. ZINIEL (Ghana) said that his main concern was to ensure that there would be no delay in considering the statutes. The Chairman's suggestion seemed acceptable.

9. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) said that, in view of the communication problems which often arose in Africa, he would prefer that the statutes should be referred directly to the Conference of Ministers, which was scheduled to meet in March.

10. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) suggested that, in order to meet the concerns just expressed, the Committee might in its decision specifically request the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session in January to refer the statutes to the ECA Conference of Ministers for review and request the Secretary-General to resubmit the statutes to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session.

11. After a brief procedural discussion in which Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon), Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) and Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) took part, the CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should recommend to the General

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(The Chairman)

Assembly the adoption of a decision, taking note of the Secretary-General's note on the regional institutes for population studies (A/36/569) and the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/36/670), recommending to the Economic and Social Council that at its organizational session for 1982 it should invite the Conference of Ministers of ECA to take up the proposed statutes once again in the light of the points raised by the Advisory Committee and such suggestions as might be made by the Secretary-General after the statutes had been reviewed by the Office of Legal Affairs, the Office of Financial Services and the Office of Personnel Services, and requesting the Secretary-General to resubmit the statutes to it at its thirty-seventh session.

12. It was so decided.

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

Report of the Committee of Governmental Experts to Evaluate the Present Structure of the Secretariat in the Administrative, Finance and Personnel Areas (continued)
(A/36/44 and Corr.1; A/C.5/36/106; A/C.5/36/L.42)

13. The CHAIRMAN said that the last paragraph of draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.42 had been revised to read as follows:

"Further requests the Secretary-General that, pending and without prejudice to the decision to be taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session, the interim measures within the existing administrative structure as provided for in paragraph 4 of resolution 35/211 be maintained."

14. Draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.42, as orally revised, was adopted without a vote.

15. Mr. HOLBORN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that his delegation was somewhat disappointed by the draft resolution, since it remained opposed to the last paragraph requesting the Secretary-General to maintain the interim measures provided for in resolution 35/211. Some delegations which were extremely interested in the matter, including his own, had not been consulted on that paragraph. He agreed with the representative of Trinidad and Tobago that the paragraph should in no way be interpreted as binding the Secretary-General in the exercise of his responsibilities. His delegation was convinced that the interim measures should be discontinued and that, regardless of the persons involved, the Secretariat, and especially the Department of Administration, Finance and Management, should continue to be operated as an integrated structure.

16. Mr. MERIEUX (France) said that, if a vote had been taken on the draft resolution, his delegation would have voted against the extension of the mandate of the Committee of Governmental Experts. The organization of Secretariat units should be within the competence of the Secretary-General alone, and representatives of Member States should never substitute their judgement for his in the exercise of his functions. The best structure for the Secretariat was one which suited the Secretary-General and enabled the officers serving under him to work together harmoniously. The incoming Secretary-General should be allowed to make his own

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(Mr. Merieux, France)

decisions on possible reforms of the structure of the Secretariat and on whether the interim measures mentioned in the draft resolution should be maintained. His delegation hoped that the Committee of Governmental Experts would work with the new Secretary-General and take account of his decisions on the organization of the Secretariat units.

17. Mr. MARTORELL (Peru), referring to the statement by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, said that he had in fact been consulted regarding the draft resolution and had indicated that his delegation could not support it. It had then been decided that the draft resolution should be put to a vote. Subsequently, however, the delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany had agreed to join in the consensus, and the draft resolution had therefore been submitted for adoption without a vote.

18. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said that his delegation endorsed the position expressed by the representative of France on the extension of the mandate of the Committee of Governmental Experts. If a vote had been taken on the draft resolution, his delegation would have abstained. However, since it was apparent that the extension of Committee's mandate was considered desirable, his delegation would continue to assist it in its work.

19. Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco) said that in an effort to achieve a consensus, his delegation had made many concessions, with the result that the draft resolution did not correspond to what Morocco had originally desired. The only authority in the Secretariat of the United Nations should be that of the Secretary-General. His delegation had not intended to divide the Secretary-General's responsibilities, and believed that he alone should be entirely responsible for the sound management of the United Nations.

20. Mr. ELHASSAN (Sudan) said his delegation was pleased that the Committee had been able to take a decision without a vote. The Committee of Governmental Experts had been set up neither to resolve personal differences in the Secretariat nor to replace the Secretary-General, but rather to address a serious problem. It should be given a chance to do so in a calm and objective manner.

21. Mr. BANGURA (Sierra Leone) said that his delegation had been happy to join in the consensus that had been reached on the draft resolution. The continuation of the Committee's mandate would not have been meaningful if the last paragraph had been deleted. The interim measures mentioned in that paragraph did not prejudice the continuity of the administration of the Secretariat, nor did they restrict the Secretary-General, as some delegations had contended.

22. Mr. van HELLENBERG HUBAR (Netherlands) said that his delegation fully shared the views expressed by the representative of France.

23. Mr. RUGWIZANGOGA (Rwanda) said that, if a vote had been taken, his delegation would have voted in favour of the draft resolution. The Committee of Governmental Experts should, however, work independently of the Secretariat and must not be pressured by any members of the Secretariat.

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24. Mr. HOLBORN (Federal Republic of Germany), referring to the statement by the representative of Peru, explained that, in stating that his delegation had not been consulted, he had been referring to the entire process of negotiation on the last paragraph of the draft resolution and not only to the most recent negotiations.

25. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution would give rise to conference-servicing costs not exceeding \$281,000. Since the Fifth Committee had already decided on the amounts included in the consolidated statement, the \$281,000 would be reflected in the performance report for 1982-1983. The Advisory Committee was recommending an additional appropriation of \$39,900 under section 23A. Replying to a question from the representative of Mauritania, he said that the figure quoted in document A/C.5/36/106, paragraph 4, was based on an assumption made in the light of past experience and of the fact that the composition of the Committee of Governmental Experts might change by 1982. Replying to a question from the representative of the United States, he said that the Advisory Committee had taken account of that representative's suggestion on scheduling meetings of the Committee of Governmental Experts at a time when it was least likely that freelance staff would need to be hired. It was for that reasons that the Advisory Committee had indicated that there was no immediate need for additional appropriations to cover conference-servicing costs. In fact, the \$281,000 requested would probably not be needed for 1982, as outside temporary assistance would probably not be required.

26. Mr. RUEDAS (Assistant Secretary-General for Financial Services) said that the figure given in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/36/106) was based on the expected needs of the Committee of Governmental Experts in 1982. Although the composition of that Committee for 1981 was known, there was no way of predicting what it would be in 1982.

27. The CHAIRMAN suggested, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.5/36/L.42, as orally revised, an additional appropriation of \$39,900 would be required under section 28A for the biennium 1982-1983 and that the related conference-servicing costs which might arise, estimated on a full-cost basis at \$231,000, would be reflected in the first performance report on the programme budget for 1982-1983.

28. It was so decided.

Special review of the ongoing work programme of the United Nations (A/36/658)

29. Mr. DEBATIN (Under-Secretary-General for Administration, Finance and Management) said that the original initiative for a review of the ongoing work programme dated back to General Assembly resolution 3534 (XXX), and the request for such a review had been reiterated most recently in Assembly resolution 35/209. A review of all programmes and activities of the Organization had accordingly been initiated by the Secretary-General with a view to establishing priorities among them and identifying areas deserving examination as to their possible discontinuation. The work had been entrusted to an ad hoc group of high-level officials and had been initiated in the context of the preparation of the programme budget for the

biennium 1982-1983. Its programmatic conclusions should therefore be seen in the broader context of the process of determining the financial requirements of the United Nations.

30. Clearly, budgetary examination of resource requirements could go a long way in applying acknowledged criteria of budgetary scrutiny, but such an exercise could never neglect the limit established by legislative programme mandates. It was the programmes themselves and their contents which must be the subject of review. It had become clear, however, that such an undertaking would need time for careful analysis and also that any curtailment or modification of programmes covered by existing mandates would have to be predicated on decisions of the legislative bodies in that regard. Owing to the extreme time pressure on budget preparation, there had been no alternative but to restrict termination of activities to cases that could be clearly established without touching upon any existing legislative mandate. However, all the other areas of programmes and activities covered by legislative mandates had also been subjected to an extensive review in order to assess areas of low priority as well as those where strengthening might seem desirable. The result was presented in the Secretary-General's report (A/36/658).

31. The approach taken for the special review had involved a request to heads of departments and offices to identify activities that could be regarded as low priority and to formulate proposals in connexion with high-priority activities in ongoing programmes. No category of activity had been excluded from the review. It should be made clear that submissions by the programme managers were not to be interpreted as reflecting their judgement that the activities listed as being of low priority were automatically to be considered obsolete, ineffective or only of marginal usefulness. Rather, programme managers had been asked to proceed on the hypothesis that there was to be a reduction in resources and to decide which programmes, subprogrammes or programme elements should be considered of lowest priority. They had also been asked to identify high-priority activities and make specific proposals in regard to them.

32. Obviously, however, any proposal contained in the report was subject to the prerogative of the General Assembly to take any decision as to curtailment, reformulation and termination of activities. The Secretary-General's proposals did not take into account recent decisions by the Main Committees or the plenary Assembly itself, such as the resolutions on the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and on disarmament fellowships, which the Committee would need to take into account in considering the report.

33. Annexed to the report were three lists. Annex I contained a summary of activities which had already been submitted to the Assembly for termination. Annex II listed activities which, in view of existing legislative mandates, had been included in the programme budget but might be considered of low priority. The list in annex III set out high-priority activities which could contribute to the strengthening of ongoing programmes. The annotations in annex II were intended to indicate whether action on those low-priority items would result in termination of a complete programme element or in modification by terminating some but not all,

(Mr. Desatin)

of the outputs. The principle was that any decision on any of the activities listed must derive from legislative action; the report was not a kind of supplementary budget showing areas where further savings might be achieved automatically.

34. The review was oriented towards a rearrangement in the setting of priorities among the many activities of the United Nations in order to enhance productivity and efficiency, and ultimately the quality of programme delivery. Its result must therefore not be viewed in a fragmentary way but must be seen in its entirety. If the list in annex III contained no quantification in financial terms, that was only because any change in any of the activities set out there would require a far more detailed examination as to substantive content as well as the related financial implications.

35. It should also be noted that the review had started out on the practical assumption that programme managers should indicate, for each of their corresponding areas of responsibility, programmes and activities of lower priority. That approach had meant that the input to the review exercise had been presented section by section. The relative impact on the various programmes of the indicated programme reduction would therefore depend on how each programme or activity stood at the moment in respect of the size of resources made available to it. There then arose the question whether and to what extent the review might be widened in its focus so as to take account of the Organization's programmes and activities at a higher level of aggregation, so that proposals for the setting of priorities could be pursued in all areas of activities. Should the General Assembly decide to refer the question to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, an opportunity for clarification of that issue, and of others he had mentioned, would be provided. Further estimates regarding the level of resources could also be submitted, both for the low-priority areas and for the areas in which programmes might be strengthened.

36. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he regretted that a document of such importance as the report on the special review (A/36/658) had reached the Fifth Committee too late for discussion. He supported draft decision A/C.5/36/L.50 and hoped that it would be adopted by consensus.

37. Mr. MERIEUX (France) said he too was disappointed that the report had been submitted so late that the possibilities it opened up for redeploying resources and effecting economies could not be exploited. He would like to know why it had not been issued earlier.

38. Mr. HOLBORN (Federal Republic of Germany) noted that, in annex II to his report, the Secretary-General proposed a reduction in the functions of the Classification Section; he would like to know what the view of ICSC had been on that proposal, if indeed it had been solicited. Moreover, since two officers were not enough to manage the Section's two current programmes, he wondered which one would have to be abandoned.

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39. Mr. KUYAMA (Japan) said that his delegation was not opposed to the adoption by consensus of draft decision A/C.5/36/L.50 but regretted that an opportunity to effect substantial savings had been lost for lack of time to take action on the low-priority programmes and areas indicated in document A/36/658.

40. Mr. DEBATIN (Under-Secretary-General for Administration, Finance and Management) said he too regretted that the Secretary-General's report (A/36/658) had been submitted so late, but the complex and difficult task of questioning programme managers in the field had taken longer than expected. Furthermore, the ad hoc group of high-level officials conducting the review had required extensive discussions in order to agree on balanced recommendations.

41. Replying to the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, he said that ICSC had not been consulted on the question of a reduction in the functions of the Classification Service, because the document was a report issued by the Secretary-General. As for the other point raised, it was extremely difficult to identify low-priority areas. In any case, no decision had been taken in the matter of job classification and therefore no activity had been curtailed.

42. Replying to the representative of Japan, he stressed that the field managers had never been asked to make any recommendations; they had only been asked what they would do in the purely hypothetical event that their resources were reduced. Thus, before concluding that there was really any room for savings, it was necessary to assess the programmes per se and in their relationship to each other.

43. Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada) said that he appreciated the observations of the Under-Secretary-General. Document A/36/658 was extremely important because it marked progress in identifying low-priority programmes and possible savings through redeployment.

44. Draft decision A/C.5/36/L.50 was adopted without a vote.

45. Mr. PAL (India), speaking in explanation of position, said he did not see why programme managers in the field could not have submitted their replies in connexion with the special review at the same time as they had submitted their budget requests. In any case, the report had been submitted late, and his delegation had felt that nothing more could be done than to adopt draft decision A/C.5/36/L.50.

46. Mr. EL SAFTY (Egypt) said that his delegation had also agreed to the adoption of the draft decision as the best solution, in view of the regrettable tardiness of the report, which contained many elements that deserved more careful study.

47. Mr. BOUZARBIA (Algeria) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus on the draft decision because it was too late for a debate. The report was extremely important and he hoped that it would later receive the attention it deserved.

48. Mrs. DORSET (Trinidad and Tobago) said she too regretted that document A/36/658 had been submitted too late for discussion and hoped that CPC would give it proper consideration with a view not only to effecting savings but also to preserving the best programmes in a manner consistent with fiscal responsibility. She also suggested that, in future, the Secretariat should be more frank in indicating when a document might be submitted late, particularly in cases where that could easily be anticipated.

49. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said his delegation was deeply disappointed that the report had not been submitted early enough to exploit the opportunity it provided for re-deploying resources to the new activities which the Secretary-General had been requested to undertake and which should be financed from savings effected through the reduction or termination of obsolete and marginal activities.

Administrative and financial implications of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in paragraphs 474 through 514 of its report on its twenty-first session (continued) (A/36/38; A/C.5/36/40 and Add.1)

Subsection (a) (paras. 474 and 475)

50. Paragraphs 474 and 475 were endorsed.

Subsection (c) (paras. 477-481)

51. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said that, although his delegation was extremely interested in efficiency and economy, it was also concerned that the review of the efficiency of maintaining the United Nations Supply Depot at Pisa recommended in paragraph 478 might impede the effectiveness of an operation which was extremely important to the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East and to the future of Namibia. His delegation felt that the Depot should be continued and that the recommendation should therefore be deleted.

52. Mr. RUEDAS (Assistant Secretary-General for Financial Services) drew attention to document A/C.5/36/40, paragraph 3, and said that the Secretary-General would conduct the review with the utmost care and with due consideration for the views of the United States.

53. Subsection (c) was endorsed.

Subsection (d) (paras. 482-484)

54. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said he agreed that programme element 2.3 (Welfare of migrant workers and their families) seemed to duplicate the work of ILO and should therefore be deleted.

55. Mr. KEMAL (Pakistan) recalled that, as indicated in paragraph 8 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/36/40), five delegations had stated in the Third Committee of the Economic and Social Council that in their view programme element 2.3 did not duplicate the work of ILO and therefore should not be cancelled.

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(Mr. Kemal, Pakistan)

No delegation had spoken in favour of cancellation. It would thus appear that the issue was at the very least a controversial one, and that the Committee would do well not to take a hasty decision to eliminate the programme element.

56. Mr. BUNC (Yugoslavia) said that when the question of migrant workers had been discussed in CPC it had been noted that the specific question of the welfare of such workers was the proper concern of ILO. His delegation accordingly favoured the deletion of programme element 2.3.

57. Mr. BOUZARBIA (Algeria) said that his delegation agreed with the views expressed by the representative of Pakistan and could not associate itself with the recommendation in paragraph 483 of the CPC report.

58. Mr. PAL (India) said that the comments made in document A/C.5/36/40 were extraordinary, in that the Secretary-General was not so much submitting financial implications as inferring that CPC's recommendation had been modified by the Economic and Social Council. It was not the prerogative of the Secretary-General to interpret the Council's wishes in advance of its decisions, and the Fifth Committee should not base its own decision on the Secretary-General's interpretation.

59. Mr. BUNC (Yugoslavia) observed that what the Secretary-General was saying was that the Economic and Social Council had in fact endorsed the view that programme element 2.3 duplicated the work of ILO and should therefore be deleted.

60. Subsection (d) was endorsed.

Subsections (e), (f), (g) and (h) (paras. 485-493)

61. Subsections (e), (f), (g) and (h) were endorsed.

Subsection (i) (para. 494)

62. Replying to questions from Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) and Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco), Mr. BEGIN (Director, Budget Division) drew attention to paragraph 29 of the statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/36/40), which pointed out that the proposed dispatch of two experts to Morocco and Spain on a six-month mission to study the project concerning the fixed link between Africa and Europe through the Straits of Gibraltar was properly to be considered an integral part of a technical co-operation project, and that the costs involved should therefore be met from extrabudgetary resources.

63. Subsection (i) was endorsed.

Subsections (j), (k) and (l) (paras. 495-500)

64. Subsections (j), (k) and (l) were endorsed.

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Subsection (m) (para. 501)

65. Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada) said that he wished to draw the Committee's attention to paragraph 501 (d), which suggested that there was no legislative mandate for programme element 9.1 (Environmental law). Little discussion had been devoted to the question at the twenty-first session of CPC, which had unfortunately coincided with the ninth session of the Governing Council of UNEP. It had, however, been proposed in the UNEP medium-term plan for 1982-1983 that a decision should be taken providing a broad legislative framework for the activities envisaged in programme element 9.1. The relevant legislative mandates were set forth in paragraph 41 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/36/40), and his delegation therefore proposed that the programme element should be reinstated.

66. Mr. BUNC (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation appreciated the concern expressed by the representative of Canada. However, the issue had been under consideration for a long time, and the conclusion had been reached that programme element 9.1 could not be retained as part of subprogramme 9.

67. Mr. GEPP (Brazil) said that he agreed with the representative of Yugoslavia. CPC's recommendation on environmental law should be upheld, and the Fifth Committee should endorse paragraph 501 (d).

68. Mr. OKWARO (Kenya) supported the proposal of the representative of Canada. Programme element 9.1 would cover follow-up intergovernmental meetings to prepare and adopt framework conventions for the protection of coastal areas of the Caribbean East African regions. His delegation was therefore unable to subscribe to the CPC recommendation.

69. Mr. AMNEUS (Sweden) said that the recommendation in paragraph 501 (d) had been superseded by events, and programme element 9.1 should accordingly be retained.

70. Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada) said that it might help the Committee to reach a decision if it were aware that CPC had not discussed the question in depth and that a mandate for the retention of programme element 9.1 did exist. There were also sound technical and environmental reasons why it was important not to eliminate the programme element.

71. Mr. GEPP (Brazil) said that he could sympathize with the arguments advanced by the representative of Canada. However, it might be proper to postpone a decision until the next meeting, when more members would be present.

72. Mr. BUNC (Yugoslavia) said that his delegation shared the concern of the representatives of Canada and Sweden regarding matters relating to conservation, but it could not accept the use of the words "harmonious exploitation of shared natural resources" in paragraph 501 (c). It was therefore in favour of the deletion of programme element 9.1.

73. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said that he agreed with the proposal put forward by the representative of Canada.

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74. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should defer taking a decision on subsection (m) until the following meeting.

75. It was so decided.

Subsections (n), (o), (p) and (q) (paras. 502-508)

76. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) said that, while he had no objection to the recommendations in paragraphs 506 to 508, it should be pointed out that subsection (9) had been discussed in depth in CPC and the general consensus had been that a serious study should be conducted on how the regular programme of technical co-operation could be made to serve the aims of technical co-operation for development.

77. Mr. PAPENDORP (United States of America) said his delegation believed that it might be preferable to delete the recommendations in subsection (q), since the activities in question should properly be funded from voluntary extrabudgetary resources. However, he would not press the point.

78. Subsections (n), (o), (p) and (q) were endorsed.

Subsections (r) and (s) (paras. 509-514)

79. Subsections (r) and (s) were endorsed.

The meeting rose at 10.35 p.m.