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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985

QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

United Nations Council for Namibia

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolutions contained in document A/38/24, Part II

Observations by the Committee on Conferences in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 35/10 A

1. In accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 35/10 A, by which the General Assembly decided that all proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings made at sessions of the General Assembly should be reviewed by the Committee on Conferences when administrative implications are being considered under the requirements of rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, the Committee on Conferences met to review the implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/38/24, Part II and adopted by the United Nations Council for Namibia.
2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 15 (l) of draft resolution C approved by the Council for Namibia, the Assembly would decide that the Council should conduct hearings, seminars and workshops in order to obtain relevant information on the exploitation of the people and resources of Namibia. The Council has indicated that one seminar would be held in Eastern Europe and the other in North America, and requested verbatim transcripts in English of the proceedings of the seminars.
3. By operative paragraph 15 (m) of the draft resolution, the Council for Namibia would organize regional symposia on the situation in Namibia with a view to intensifying active support for the Namibian cause. This would involve the holding of one symposium in Western Europe and another in Africa.

4. By operative paragraphs 19 and 20 of the draft resolution, the Assembly would request the Council to hold a series of plenary meetings in Asia during 1984 and request the Secretary-General to defray the cost of the meetings and to provide the staff and services for them. The site of these meetings would be Bangkok.

5. By operative paragraph 5 of draft resolution D proposed by the Council for Namibia, the General Assembly would request

"...the United Nations Council for Namibia to organize a symposium to be held at United Nations Headquarters in 1984 with the participation of prominent personalities, scholars, support groups, media personalities and others from all parts of the world, in order to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the heroic struggle of the Namibian people against the colonial occupation and the plunder of the natural resources of their country, and for self-determination, freedom and independence, and to draw the attention to the world public, particularly in the Western countries, to the question of Namibia, with a view to further mobilizing international support for the just struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of the South West Africa People's Organization, their sole and authentic representative, to bring about the speedy independence of Namibia".

This would be held in October 1984.

6. The Committee on Conferences wishes to advise the General Assembly that draft resolutions C and D in the report of the Council for Namibia (A/38/24, Part II) would involve an exception to General Assembly resolution 31/140, section I in that the symposia, the seminars and the plenary meetings envisaged are to be held away from Headquarters and host Governments will not be defraying the additional costs involved. Some members of the Committee on Conferences felt that such departures from the usual practice were to be discouraged. However, other members pointed to the various precedents in existence and expressed strong support for the proposals of the Council for Namibia.

7. The Committee on Conferences advises the General Assembly that the provision of verbatim transcripts in English only to the seminars recommended by the Council for Namibia would involve an exception to General Assembly resolutions 3415 (XXX) and 37/14 C.

8. The Committee on Conferences advises the General Assembly that the holding by the Council for Namibia of a symposium in October, 1984 at United Nations Headquarters would involve an exception to General Assembly decision 34/401. The Committee on Conferences assumes that the symposium would not interfere with the work of the General Assembly and its Main Committees.
