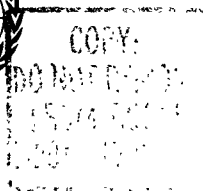


United Nations
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION
Official Records*



FIFTH COMMITTEE
68th meeting
held on
Friday, 16 December 1983
at 3 p.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 68th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. KUYAMA (Japan)

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

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 118: UNITED NATIONS PENSION SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
JOINT STAFF PENSION BOARD (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 17: APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND OTHER
APPOINTMENTS (continued)

(i) APPOINTMENT OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution
A/C.1/38/L.4/Rev.1 concerning agenda item 62 (c)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.59
concerning agenda item 62 (e)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.49
concerning agenda item 58

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.53
concerning agenda item 61 (b)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution
A/C.1/38/L.57/Rev.2 concerning agenda item 62

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.30
concerning agenda item 50 (a)

*This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned within one week of the date of publication to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate fascicle for each Committee.

Distr. GENERAL
A/C.5/38/SR.68
23 December 1983

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONTENTS (continued)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution
A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2 concerning agenda item 46

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.17
concerning agenda item 60

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.30,
as orally revised, concerning agenda item 12

The meeting was called to order at 3.45 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 118: UNITED NATIONS PENSION SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
JOINT STAFF PENSION BOARD (continued) (A/C.5/38/19; A/C.5/38/L.24 and L.25)

1. Mr. AMNEUS (Sweden) reported to the Committee on the outcome of the informal consultations which he had been asked to conduct by the Chairman with a view to recommending a draft resolution on agenda item 118 that would command the widest possible support. The results of the consultations were before the Committee in the form of draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24 and document A/C.5/38/L.25.
2. The informal working group had taken as its point of departure the debate in the Fifth Committee, which had revealed a large measure of agreement on the need further to improve the actuarial situation of the Pension Fund and equally wide support for the idea that all concerned should bear a share of the burden. Those two points were reflected in the second, third, fourth and tenth preambular paragraphs of the draft resolution. Together with the eighth preambular paragraph, they set the stage for the package which followed in the operative parts. The package consisted of three main components: an increase in the rate of contribution to the Fund, consideration of further economy measures, and deferment of the implementation of any adjustments in pensionable remuneration that might become due in 1984.
3. In section I, the Assembly would decide to raise the rate of contributions to 21.75 per cent of pensionable remuneration with effect from 1 January 1984, as recommended by the Joint Staff Pension Board. The employing member organizations would pay 14.5 per cent, as against 14 per cent at present, while participants would pay 7.25 per cent, as against 7 per cent at present. The annex referred to in paragraph 2 of section I reproduced the text of annex IX to the Board's report, (A/38/9), the only change being the deletion in article 25 of the reference to the rate of contribution beyond 1985.
4. Section II dealt with measures to improve the actuarial situation of the Fund. It would be recalled that the General Assembly had decided to put into effect certain economy measures as from 1 January 1983. One of the further measures which the Pension Board was being requested to examine was the imposition of a ceiling on the highest pensions, since benefits payable to long-service senior officials under the United Nations system were much higher than those payable by the comparator civil service. The maximum level of pension might be, for example, the benefit payable to an official retiring at the top step of the D-2 level after five years of service. The Board was not being asked to impose ceilings on benefits for every grade.
5. A third key element in the package was section III, particularly paragraphs 4 and 5. The working group had been unanimous in approving a deferment of any adjustment of pensionable remuneration that might become due in 1984 until the Assembly had considered the recommendations of ICSC and the Pension Board at its thirty-ninth session. In that connection, he wished to mention another part of the package. In the course of the discussion in the working group, there had been a request, supported by several delegations, to the effect that certain statistical

/...

(Mr. Amneus, Sweden)

data should be annexed to the report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 118. Other delegations had felt that such information would not be useful but had made it clear that they would not oppose the request. The statistical data concerned comparable figures for pensionable remuneration and pension benefits in the United Nations and the United States Federal Civil Service. Tables had been provided to the working group by the Pension Fund secretariat on its own responsibility and in co-operation with the United States Mission to the United Nations. The data were reproduced in document A/C.5/38/L.25. It was the intention of the working group that that document should be attached to the report of the Committee to the Assembly.

6. The thrust of section IV was in conformity with the recommendations of ICSC, the Joint Staff Pension Board and ACABQ.

7. There had been participation in the informal working group by more than 25 delegations, representing all the geographical regions. The working group had been assisted by representatives of the Pension Fund secretariat, the secretariat of ICSC and the Office of Financial Services. Representatives of the staff and participants had been present during the early part of the consultations but had not been given the right to address the working group. Observers from the employing member organizations had participated throughout the entire period of consultations. All issues had been debated extensively and the package had been adopted by delegations with full knowledge of all the relevant facts. All the parties involved had made considerable concessions in order to achieve consensus. He thanked all of them and commended the draft resolution to the Fifth Committee for adoption.

8. Mr. MARRON (Spain) commended the representative of Sweden for his skilful handling of the informal consultations, which had produced a draft resolution that enjoyed wide support. He paid a tribute to the delegations of Belgium and Austria, in particular, which, through their statements in the informal consultations, had helped his delegation to gain a better understanding of the issues involved.

9. Mr. PIRSON (Belgium), supported by Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada), proposed that the Committee should proceed forthwith to adopt the draft resolution.

10. Mr. DUQUE (Secretary of the Committee), replying to a question asked by the representative of the Upper Volta, said that the editorial changes in question had been incorporated in the French version of draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24, which had been reissued.

11. Mr. ZAKHAROV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, in its general statement on the item, his delegation had expressed its disagreement in principle with any increase in the contributions to the pension system required of Member States. That position was based on earlier General Assembly decisions which had been repeatedly reaffirmed over the years. Unfortunately, the draft resolution before the Committee did not take that position into account. Moreover, the economy measures which were supposedly to complement the increase in the rate of

/...

(Mr. Zakharov, USSR)

contributions were inadequate and, as the representative of the Pension Fund had said, would not eliminate the actuarial balance. More radical measures were therefore required. Accordingly, his delegation would vote against the draft resolution and hoped that future proposals of the Pension Board would not lead to any further increase in the contributions required of Member States and that the Board would return to the previous arrangement for financing the Fund, which had proved its worth over several decades.

12. Miss DEREGIBUS (Argentina) said that her delegation had reservations with regard to paragraphs 4 and 5 of section III of the draft resolution, which it considered to be at variance with paragraph 1 of that same section and which could have adverse consequences for the common system. She therefore requested a separate vote on those two paragraphs.

13. Mr. PIRSON (Belgium) said that the draft resolution represented a package which his delegation could support. However, if important provisions such as those referred to by the representative of Argentina were to be deleted, his delegation would have to vote against the draft resolution as a whole.

14. Mr. OKEYO (Kenya) said that the draft resolution represented a compromise arrived at after protracted discussion and, as such, did not necessarily fully reflect his or any other delegation's point of view. His delegation was prepared to go along with the draft resolution provided it was not amended. However, it reserved its position on the specific issues which the Pension Board and ICSC would be asked to study and which the Assembly would consider at its thirty-ninth session.

15. Miss DEREGIBUS (Argentina), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that her delegation still had reservations with regard to section III of draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24. Nevertheless, it wished to withdraw its proposal that the paragraphs in that section should be put to a separate vote.

16. Draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24 was adopted by 78 votes to 9, with 2 abstentions.

17. Mr. HOUNGAVOU (Benin), speaking in explanation of vote after the vote, said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, although it was not in complete agreement with certain provisions. It was gratifying to note that the draft omitted mention of the extension of the age of retirement, and he hoped that the Joint Staff Pension Board would not reopen discussion on that subject. His delegation strongly supported section IV of the draft resolution and trusted that the Administration of ILO would heed the appeal made in that paragraph.

18. Mrs. DORSET (Trinidad and Tobago), Mr. ELIASHIV (Israel), Mr. OULD MAALOUN (Mauritania) and Mrs. REBONG (Philippines) said that, if their delegations had been present during the vote taken on draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24, they would have voted in favour.

19. Mr. VALKOV (Bulgaria) said that, if his delegation had been present during the vote on draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24, it would have voted against the draft resolution.

/...

20. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the proposal that document A/C.5/38/L.25 should be annexed to the report of the Fifth Committee.

21. It was so decided.

22. Mr. RUEDAS (Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management) said that the draft resolution just adopted reflected a compromise reached after rather protracted informal consultations among delegations. The Secretary-General had received communications from representatives of the administrations and staff of organizations in the common system and from the representatives of the United Nations participants expressing profound concern at some of the issues raised in the debates, the nature of the studies requested, and the decision in section III, paragraph 4, of the draft resolution to defer the implementation of any adjustment of pensionable remuneration which might become due in 1984.

23. Although the Secretary-General felt that the draft resolution contained a number of positive elements, he shared many of the concerns expressed to him. He stressed the need to bear in mind at all times the nature and composition of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund. The member organizations of the Fund and the participants contributed to it on a two-thirds/one-third proportional basis. Article 18 of the Regulations of the Fund stipulated that the assets of the Fund were the property of the Fund and were to be held on behalf of the participants and beneficiaries of the Fund. Changes in the pension system, therefore, should be made only after the fullest participation of, and consultations with, all the parties concerned. In that regard, the Secretary-General welcomed the recognition given in the draft resolution to the need to fully involve the Joint Staff Pension Board and the International Civil Service Commission in the examination of the levels of pensionable remuneration and pensions and related matters.

24. In their communication to the Secretary-General, the representatives of United Nations participants had also observed that the actuarial imbalance had been a source of mounting concern among the staff over the past three years and that the participants had demonstrated their readiness to find compromise solutions to the actuarial problem. That attitude had been reflected in the consensus package of measures developed by the Pension Board in 1983, which had been adopted by the General Assembly; those measures involved sacrifices by the participants, both at the current time and in the future. Section I, paragraph 1 of the draft resolution would raise the rate of contributions from 21 to 21.75 per cent of pensionable remuneration. The Secretary-General would have preferred the adoption of the full proposal of the Pension Board, which called for an increase in the rate of contribution to 24 per cent phased over the next eight years. Nevertheless, approval of the first stage of the proposed increase was an encouraging step towards solving the current actuarial problems.

25. With regard to section II of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General had no difficulty with the request that the Pension Board should consider the various proposals put forward during the discussions. The features of the pension system should be periodically reviewed in the light of prevailing economic circumstances. At the same time, the Committee should bear in mind the evolution of current

/...

(Mr. Ruedas)

arrangements, which had been adopted by the General Assembly in 1981 after a number of years of protracted and often controversial studies by the Pension Board and ICSC.

26. The devaluations of the United States dollar during the 1970s had led to demands for a fundamental revamping of the pension system. Subsequent studies during the late 1970s and in 1980 had generated deep divisions of opinion within the common system, not only among organizations and staff members, but also among governmental representatives on the Pension Board and in various legislative organs. The increase in the value of the United States dollar was the basic reason for the request to re-examine current arrangements. While that was understandable, the possibility of future currency fluctuations should be kept in mind. That was an important consideration in view of the heavy emphasis which the draft resolution placed on the comparison of United Nations levels of pensionable remuneration and pensions, expressed in United States dollars, with those applicable in the United States Federal Civil Service.

27. With regard to section III of the draft resolution, the communications from the staff representatives and the representatives of United Nations participants expressed strong disagreement with what they considered to be a "freeze" of the level of pensionable remuneration for the Professional and higher categories. They felt that such a decision would be unprecedented and of questionable legality. In the past, decisions of the General Assembly on pensionable remuneration and its adjustment mechanism had always been preceded by extensive studies by ICSC and the Pension Board. The Secretary-General therefore shared the view that it would have created a far better climate for the various studies requested in the draft resolution, if paragraphs 4 and 5 of section III had been omitted. Nevertheless, the Secretary-General recognized that those paragraphs were an essential ingredient of the compromise achieved. It was the understanding of the Secretary-General that the purpose of those paragraphs was simply to give the Committee and the General Assembly the opportunity to consider the recommendations of ICSC and the Pension Board on the level of pensionable remuneration before the implementation of any further adjustment under article 54 (b) of the Regulations of the Fund, since, on the current evidence, a "freeze" would be undesirable, unjustified and contestable on legal grounds. In that regard, it should be recalled that in 1979 the General Assembly had decided against the adoption of a proposal to freeze the adjustment mechanism for pensionable remuneration in the absence of any proposal concerning an alternative mechanism.

28. Lastly, the Secretary-General welcomed the decision in the draft resolution to modify certain features of the measures adopted in 1982 in the light of various problems which had arisen in their implementation.

29. Mr. AKWEI (Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission) said that he had asked to be allowed to address the Committee before it took a decision on the draft resolution under consideration and very much regretted that he had not been able to express the concerns of the Commission at that time. Although the draft resolution contained a number of useful elements, certain provisions had given and would continue to give rise to serious difficulties in the common system.

/...

(Mr. Akwei)

30. Section III, paragraph 4, of the draft resolution would cause concern throughout the common system. The General Assembly would be taking a decision on a matter which it had not yet examined and on which it was requesting a study. That procedure was likely to cause alarm among the other participating organizations and participants in the United Nations pension system. Furthermore, the decision of the General Assembly would, in effect, amend the Regulations of the Pension Fund without prior consultation with the other participating organizations and participants, as was required under those Regulations. The draft resolution was stating, in effect, that if the movement of the weighted average of the post adjustment classifications (WAPA) or the consumer price index was to trigger a change in pensionable remuneration on 1 April or 1 October 1984, that change should not be implemented. The legal basis for such a decision could be challenged. Moreover, a unilateral action of that type would not promote confidence in the co-operative effort called for in the last preambular paragraph of the draft resolution. Section IV of the draft resolution drew the attention of ILO to the need to maintain the unity, cohesion and integrity of the United Nations pension system; yet, the unilateral action referred to might serve as a precedent for other participating organizations also to take unilateral action when they considered it expedient. In view of the flood of cables from many parts of the system expressing grave concern about the proposal in section III, paragraph 4, the Committee should give serious consideration to the consequences that it might have for the common system. In considering the recommendations of ICSC and the Pension Board at its next session the Committee would have ample opportunity to decide on measures to solve any possible problem regarding levels of pensionable remuneration in 1984.

31. ICSC was being requested to carry out a number of very complex studies and to report on them at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly. It was unlikely that it would be able to complete all those studies unless its summer session was extended by one week. He assumed that the Committee would agree to that suggestion, and would wish the Commission to give priority attention to the question of Professional salaries and pension issues.

32. Mr. RAFFRAY (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) expressed regret that he had not been given the opportunity to address the Committee before it had taken a decision on the draft resolution under consideration. It was also unfortunate that the Chairman of the body which was the guardian of the common system had not been given an opportunity to express his views to the Committee before the vote.

33. Speaking on behalf of ILO, FAO, WHO and UNESCO, he expressed reservations with regard to section III, paragraph 4, of the draft resolution. That paragraph constituted unilateral action by the General Assembly on a question which fell within the competence of all the organizations of the common system. Furthermore, the decision was of questionable legal validity because it constituted an amendment to the Regulations of the Pension Fund without prior consultation with the Joint Staff Pension Board.

/...

34. Mr. AMNEUS (Sweden) observed that all the issues raised by the Chairman of the Commission and by the representative of UNESCO had been thoroughly discussed in meetings of the working group. Representatives of the Commission secretariat and of the specialized agencies had participated throughout the relevant consultations. As he had indicated in introducing draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.24, the working group had agreed on that package with full knowledge of all the factors involved, including the legal aspects of section III. Moreover, the working group had had access to the opinion of the United Nations Legal Counsel in that regard.

35. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/C.5/38/19 and said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to take note of that report.

36. It was so decided.

37. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee had thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 118.

AGENDA ITEM 17: APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANCIES IN SUBSIDIARY ORGANS AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS (continued)

(i) APPOINTMENT OF TWO MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
(A/38/241; A/C.5/38/101)

38. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to two notes by the Secretary-General (A/38/241 and A/C.5/38/101), which indicated that Mr. Anatoly Semënovich Chistyakov and Mr. Jean-Claude Fortuit had resigned from the International Civil Service Commission. On the basis of the consultations he had undertaken in accordance with article 4 of the Commission's statute and in his capacity as Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Co-ordination, the Secretary-General recommended the appointment of Mr. Michel Jean Auchère, for a term expiring on 31 December 1985, and Mr. Valery Vasilyevich Tsybukov, for a term expiring on 31 December 1984.

39. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of those two persons for the periods indicated.

40. It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.4/Rev.1 concerning agenda item 62 (c) (A/C.5/38/65; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.59 concerning agenda item 62 (e) (A/C.5/38/68; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.49 concerning agenda item 58 (A/C.5/38/69; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.53 concerning agenda item 61 (b) (A/C.5/38/70; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.57/Rev.2 concerning agenda item 62 (A/C.5/38/73; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.30 concerning agenda item 50 (a) (A/C.5/38/83; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2 concerning agenda item 46 (A/C.5/38/88; A/38/7/Add.21)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.17 concerning agenda item 60 (A/C.5/38/90; A/38/7/Add.21)

41. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), introducing the report of the Advisory Committee contained in document A/38/7/Add.21, said that the requirements of the various resolutions on disarmament examined in the report were estimated by the Secretary-General at \$2,683,900. Of that amount, \$1,905,800 represented the conference-servicing requirements to be included in the consolidated statement. The balance of \$778,100 was explained by object of expenditure in paragraph 4 of the Advisory Committee's report.

42. In paragraphs 5 to 9, the Advisory Committee provided information on the results of its examination of the requests for funds to cover the requirements of ad hoc expert groups, consultant services, travel of staff and contractual translation. For the reasons explained in those paragraphs, the Advisory Committee recommended a total appropriation of \$685,000 for those objects of expenditure. Paragraph 11 provided information on that amount, divided pro rata among the resolutions concerned.

43. Referring specifically to the statement of the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2 (A/C.5/38/88), he noted that the draft resolution would have the General Assembly request the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in co-operation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and in consultation with the Organization of African Unity, to provide data on the continued development of South Africa's nuclear capability and would request the Secretary-General to provide the necessary support to that end. The Secretary-General had estimated that an additional appropriation of \$45,100 would therefore be required under section 2B. The Advisory Committee had been informed that the amount appropriated would be allocated to the Institute with a view to its providing the data in the manner indicated in paragraph 2 of the statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/38/88).

44. Mr. KHALEVINSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had carefully studied the report of the Advisory Committee (A/38/7/Add.21) and supported the approach it had adopted with a view to economizing on expenditures relating to the work of various organs, although it might have taken that approach further.

(Mr. Khalevinsky, USSR)

45. Referring, in particular, to the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.49 (A/C.5/38/69), he said that his delegation had very serious doubts about the justification for raising the issue of the comparability of military budgets and methods of accounting. Without the necessary will to solve global issues in general, such machinery would merely be a way of blocking the search for a solution to that problem. Therefore, his delegation requested that the administrative and financial implications contained in document A/C.5/38/69 should be put to a vote, and it intended to vote against them.

46. With regard to the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.53 (A/C.5/38/70), his delegation had fundamental objections to the establishment of machinery to verify compliance with the 1925 Geneva Protocol, since such machinery might actually undermine the Protocol. Attempts to deal with the question in that manner were illegal, and his delegation therefore requested that document A/C.5/38/70 should be put to a vote and intended to vote against it.

47. Draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.57/Rev.1 called for a study on the naval arms race, on naval forces and on naval arms systems, subjects which were far removed from the practical task facing the United Nations, namely, disarmament. Accordingly, if a vote was taken on the relevant administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/38/73), his delegation would abstain.

48. As to draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2, which would empower the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to study South Africa's nuclear capability, his delegation felt that the United Nations structure already had a sufficient number of groups dealing with that issue. Therefore, if a vote was taken on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.5/38/88), his delegation would abstain.

49. Mr. GRECU (Romania) said that his delegation had no difficulty in agreeing with the Advisory Committee's recommendations concerning the draft resolutions on certain disarmament problems. However, the statement on administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2 (A/C.5/38/88) seemed to be an interpretation of the draft resolution adopted by the First Committee and, more generally, of General Assembly resolution 37/99 K. His delegation could not subscribe to that interpretation, which corresponded neither to the spirit nor to the letter of the draft resolution and prejudged the decision which the Assembly must take to clarify those articles of the draft statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research concerning the financing of the activities of the Institute. General Assembly resolution 37/99 K laid down two main principles concerning that financing: firstly, that the Institute's activities should be funded by voluntary contributions; secondly, that the Secretary-General must provide the Institute with administrative and other support. Having studied the draft resolution of the First Committee and having heard the statement by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, it was his delegation's understanding that the study would be carried out by the Institute, which would assume full responsibility for it, and that the reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee related to the

/...

(Mr. Grecu, Romania)

total resources allocated to the Department for Disarmament Affairs and did not affect the possibility that the Institute might need consultant services for six months or might need some material translated.

50. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) said that his delegation could not accept the interpretation given by the Secretariat of certain General Assembly resolutions. Similarly, the Secretariat's interpretation of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.67/Rev.2 was not quite in keeping with the spirit of that text and he fully concurred with the concern expressed by the representative of Romania on the subject. The sponsors therefore requested the Secretariat to do whatever was necessary in order to set forth the financial implications correctly so that the Committee could take a decision in full knowledge of the facts.

51. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.49, an additional appropriation in the amount of \$22,000 would be required under section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

52. The proposal was adopted by 70 votes to 13, with 8 abstentions.

53. Mr. FONTAINE ORTIZ (Cuba) said that his delegation had voted against the proposal because the draft resolution, inter alia, requested information concerning the military expenditure of all States. The countries of Latin America had seen how such information on military expenditure could be used and abused. His delegation had made its position on the subject very clear during the debate in the First Committee.

54. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.53, an additional appropriation in the amount of \$98,600 would be required under section 2B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, that conference-servicing requirements estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$305,500 would arise and that the actual additional appropriation that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

55. The proposal was adopted by 68 votes to 16, with 9 abstentions.

56. Mr. FONTAINE ORTIZ (Cuba) said that he had voted against the proposal because the draft resolution contained elements which created a grave precedent since it made it possible to exclude States which were not parties to the Protocol in question from verification procedures relating to that instrument. In accordance with the position it had taken in the First Committee, his delegation had not supported those administrative and financial implications.

57. Miss DEREGIBUS (Argentina) said that, had her delegation been present when the Chairman's proposals concerning draft resolutions A/C.1/38/L.49 and L.53 were being put to the vote, it would have abstained for the reasons it had stated in the First Committee.

58. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolutions A/C.1/38/L.4/Rev.1, L.17, L.30, L.57/Rev.2, L.59 and L.67/Rev.2, a total additional appropriation in the amount of \$564,400 would be required under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, that conference-servicing requirements estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$1,600,300 would arise and that the actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement.

59. If he heard no objection he would take it that the Committee agreed to the proposal.

60. It was so decided.

61. Mr. FONTAINE ORTIZ (Cuba) said that, if the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.57/Rev.2 had been put to the vote, his delegation would have abstained since the naval arms race was part of the overall arms race.

62. Mr. NGUYEN LUONG (Viet Nam) said that, had the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.1/38/L.57/Rev.2 been put to the vote his delegation would have abstained for the reasons it had stated in the First Committee.

63. Mr. GIDLEY (United States of America) said that, had his delegation been given the floor earlier, he would have requested a vote on the Chairman's proposal. Had there been a vote his delegation would have voted against the proposal.

64. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that, if a vote had been taken, his delegation would have abstained on the proposals relating to draft resolutions A/C.1/38/L.4/Rev.1 and L.59; it would have voted against the proposals relating to all the other draft resolutions.

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.30, as orally revised, concerning agenda item 12 (A/C.5/38/94)

65. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.30 would have the Secretary-General provide the Economic Commission for Africa with \$1 million from the regular budget of the United Nations to enable it to organize four consultative technical meetings, to elaborate the studies requested in the draft resolution and to organize the meetings planned in 1984, such as those specified in paragraphs 7 and 9 of the text, within the context of the Decade. It further indicated that additional support from extrabudgetary resources should be sought.

/...

(Mr. Mselle)

66. In his statement of the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.5/38/94), the Secretary-General estimated that a total of \$2,307,700 would be required in order to implement paragraphs 7 and 9 of the draft resolution, as orally revised. As \$1 million was requested in paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General was seeking an additional appropriation of \$1 million under section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

67. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended that, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/38/L.30, as orally revised, an additional appropriation in the amount of \$1 million would be required under section 13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

68. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) asked whether the consultative meetings and studies for which \$1 million was being requested were activities which came under section VIII of the annex to General Assembly resolution 32/197. If that was the case, he wondered why was selectivity being applied in their financing? Secondly, he wondered whether the money would be provided in the form of a grant or in some other form.

69. The CHAIRMAN announced that a reply would be given at the next meeting.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.