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INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1969

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions I, III  
and IV contained in the report of the Third Committee (A/7433,  
para. 157)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago MEYER PICON (Mexico)

A. DRAFT RESOLUTION I

1. At its 1288th meeting, held on 16 December 1968, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with rule 15<sup>4</sup> of the rules of procedure, considered a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1215) on the effect of the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution I contained in the report of the Third Committee (A/7433, para. 157) on the International Year for Human Rights. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions presented the report of his Committee in an oral statement.
2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would be requested to continue to issue from time to time an appropriate bulletin containing information on the activities of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in the field of human rights and a bibliography of significant documents and publications in that field. The Secretary-General estimated that the minimal costs which would be incurred in respect of staff and reproduction of this material could be absorbed within the level of credits already recommended for 1969. He suggested, however, that an amount of \$1,000 be appropriated under section 10 for the cost of air-mail

distribution. The Advisory Committee recommended that this amount be absorbed within the level of credits already recommended under that section.

3. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that the adoption of the draft resolution would not give rise to any additional appropriations for 1969.

#### B. DRAFT RESOLUTION III

4. At its 1286th meeting on 14 December 1968, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1202) on the financial implications of draft resolution III contained in the report of the Third Committee (A/7433, para. 157) regarding the establishment of a special committee to investigate Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the population of the occupied territories.

5. In its related report on the subject (A/7397), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was of the opinion that certain economies could be achieved under some of the headings of the Secretary-General's estimates, and decided to recommend to the Fifth Committee a total appropriation of \$19,000 for this item.

6. The representative of Israel wished to place on record his delegation's opposition to the draft resolution in question, as stated in the Third Committee during the relevant discussion, and its negative attitude regarding expenditure of United Nations funds for the purpose of the draft resolution.

7. The Fifth Committee decided to advise the General Assembly that should it approve draft resolution III contained in document A/7433, an additional amount of \$19,000 would need to be appropriated by the Assembly under section 17 of the budget for 1969.

#### C. DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

8. At its 1287th meeting, on 17 December 1968, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure, considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1210) on the financial implications of draft resolution IV contained in the report of the Third Committee (A/7433, para. 157) on the

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International Year for Human Rights. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions presented his Committee's report in an oral statement.

9. Under the terms of operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution the Secretary-General is invited to study (a) steps which could be taken to secure the better application of existing humanitarian international conventions and rules in all armed conflicts; (b) the need for additional humanitarian international conventions or for other appropriate legal instruments to ensure the better protection of civilians, prisoners and combatants in all armed conflicts and the prohibition and limitation of the use of certain methods and means of warfare.

10. The Secretary-General, in his report, estimated the costs of preparing the study referred to in the preceding paragraph at \$41,700, consisting of \$32,000 for consultant services at a senior level, \$7,000 for supporting secretarial assistance and \$2,700 for travel of consultants for consultations with international organizations. The Advisory Committee considered that the highly specialized staff at present available in the Human Rights Division should be able to assist in the preparation of the background material required for the studies and that this Division should also be able to provide the necessary secretarial services. Accordingly, the Committee recommended that an additional appropriation of \$20,000 for consultants under section 3, chapter III, should be sufficient for implementing the draft resolution in 1969.

11. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly accordingly.

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