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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST

United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (A/40/754). During its consideration of the item, additional information was provided to the Advisory Committee by the representatives of the Secretary-General.
2. UNDOF was established by Security Council resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974; its mandate has since been extended, most recently by Security Council resolution 576 (1985) of 21 November 1985 for another period of six months, that is, until 31 May 1986.
3. The report of the Secretary-General includes sections on the following:
 - (a) Expenditure and revised apportionment for periods from 1 December 1983 to 30 November 1985;
 - (b) Cost estimates beyond 30 November 1985.

Details on (a) and (b) above are provided in annexes I and II to the report. Additionally, the status of contributions to UNDOF is reported in paragraphs 4 to 7. Actions that need to be taken by the General Assembly at its current session in respect of the financing of UNDOF are summarized in paragraph 11 of the report.

4. In paragraph 4 of his report, the Secretary-General states that, as at 30 September 1985, a total of \$665.1 million in contributions for UNDOF and the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) had been received for the period from

inception to 30 November 1985. The table following paragraph 7 shows that, as at 30 September 1985, the balance due from Member States amounts to \$73 million, of which only \$6.2 million is estimated to be collectible. The balance of \$66.8 million comprises amounts apportioned to Member States which have stated that they do not intend to pay for UNDOF (\$30.8 million) and amounts transferred to a special account in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/116 A of 10 December 1981 (\$36.0 million). In this connection, the Secretary-General draws attention in paragraph 7 to the fact that "there is a shortfall of approximately \$7.2 million in the UNDOF special account in respect of the periods 25 October 1979 to 30 November 1985. The shortfall arising from the previous periods of UNDOF up to 24 October 1979 together with UNEF until its liquidation in 1980 is estimated at \$59.6 million. In the circumstances, troop contributors have not been paid on time; moreover, they have not been reimbursed fully in accordance with rates agreed upon. They have continued to convey to the Secretary-General their very serious concern over this situation, which places a heavy burden on their Governments." The Advisory Committee also notes from paragraph 6 of the report that no voluntary contributions have been received in response to section IV, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 39/28 A of 30 November 1984.

5. On a related matter, the Advisory Committee was informed that the interim accounts for the biennium 1984-1985 indicate for the special account for UNEF and UNDOF a "surplus" balance of \$3,250,131 as at 31 December 1984, representing excess of income over expenditure due to interest and miscellaneous credits accrued to the account. According to the Secretary-General, the word "income" in the preceding sentence includes "assessed contributions", irrespective of collectibility. However, in consequence of the withholding of contributions by certain Member States, the surplus balance referred to has in effect been drawn upon to its full extent to supplement the income received from contributions for meeting expenses of the Forces.

A. Expenditure of UNDOF from 1 December 1983 to 30 November 1985

6. The disbursements and obligations for UNDOF for this 24-month period are discussed in section III and annex I of the report of the Secretary-General.

7. The following table shows disbursements and obligations (shown below and in the report of the Secretary-General as "revised apportionment") for the 12-month period from 1 December 1984 to 30 November 1985 as compared with initial allocations prepared by the Secretary-General to accord with amounts approved for UNDOF by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session.

United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

Revised apportionment and initial allocation for the period
from 1 December 1984 to 30 November 1985

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	<u>Revised apportion- ment</u>	<u>Initial allocation</u>	<u>Increase (decrease)</u>
1. <u>Local area and backstopping costs</u>			
(a) United Nations daily allowance to troops	614	617	(3)
(b) Salaries and related costs of staff	4 609	4 395	214
(c) Travel and subsistence of military personnel	53	73	(20)
(d) Rations	1 490	1 998	(508)
(e) Rental, maintenance, utilities and construction of premises	2 116	2 035	81
(f) Rental of aircraft	-	5	(5)
(g) Communications	20	20	-
2. <u>Force-wide equipment and supplies</u>			
(a) Purchase of transportation equipment	1 177	1 001	176
(b) Purchase of other equipment	702	692	10
(c) Maintenance and operation of motor transport and other equipment	2 920	2 990	(70)
(d) Supplies and services	1 942	1 800	142
(e) Freight, cartage and express	300	300	-
(f) Reimbursement for depreciation of contingent-owned equipment	947	947	-
3. <u>Rotation of contingents</u>	1 067	1 046	21
4. <u>Death and disability awards</u>	125	125	-
5. <u>Welfare</u>	280	280	-
6. <u>Payment for troop costs</u>			
(a) Pay and allowance for troops	15 730	15 765	(35)
(b) Usage factor for personal clothing, gear and equipment	1 112	1 115	(3)
7. <u>Staff assessment</u>	501	501	-
Total, lines 1-7	35 705	35 705	-
8. <u>Income from staff assessment</u>	501	501	-
9. <u>Other income</u>	20	20	-
10. <u>Total net</u>	35 184	35 184	-

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B. Cost estimates for UNDOF beyond 30 November 1985

8. In section IV and annex II to his report, the Secretary-General indicates that, should the Security Council renew the mandate of UNDOF beyond 30 November 1985 (see para. 2 above), the costs would be in the order of \$3,047,000 gross (\$2,989,083 net) per month from 1 December 1985 onwards. This estimate assumes an average Force strength of 1,320 troops, all ranks, and assumes that the existing responsibilities of UNDOF will continue.

9. The following table provides a comparison between the revised apportionment from 1 December 1984 to 30 November 1985 and estimates of the cost of UNDOF from 1 December 1985 to 30 November 1986.

United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

Cost estimate from 1 December 1985 to 30 November 1986 and revised
apportionment from 1 December 1984 to 30 November 1985

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	<u>1985/1986 estimate</u>	<u>1984/1985 revised apportionment</u>	<u>1985/1986 increase (decrease)</u>
1. <u>Local area and backstopping costs</u>			
(a) United Nations daily allowance to troops	623	614	9
(b) Salaries and related costs of staff	4 824	4 609	215
(c) Travel and subsistence of military personnel	70	53	17
(d) Rations	1 850	1 490	360
(e) Rental, maintenance, utilities and construction of premises	1 966	2 116	(150)
(f) Rental of aircraft	-	-	-
(g) Communications	18	20	(2)
2. <u>Force-wide equipment and supplies</u>			
(a) Purchase of transportation equipment	630	1 177	(547)
(b) Purchase of other equipment	1 056	702	354
(c) Maintenance and operation of motor transport and other equipment	3 012	2 920	92
(d) Supplies and services	1 956	1 942	14
(e) Freight, cartage and express	300	300	-
(f) Reimbursement for depreciation of contingent-owned equipment	924	947	(23)
3. <u>Rotation of contingents</u>	1 291	1 067	224
4. <u>Death and disability awards</u>	125	125	-
5. <u>Welfare</u>	275	280	(5)
6. <u>Payment for troop costs</u>			
(a) Pay and allowance for troops	15 848	15 730	118
(b) Usage factor for personal clothing, gear and equipment	1 121	1 112	9
7. <u>Staff assessment</u>	675	501	174
Total gross, lines 1-7	36 564	35 705	859
8. <u>Income from staff assessment</u>	675	501	174
9. <u>Other income</u>	20	20	-
10. <u>Total net</u>	35 869	35 184	685

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10. As can be seen from the table above, the total increase, on a net basis, in 1985/1986 is \$685,000 or 1.9 per cent. In annex II, paragraph 2, the Secretary-General proposes the establishment of one new Field Service post to provide support to the Property and Inventory Control Unit of UNDOF. The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of this proposal, which would bring the total number of posts assigned to UNDOF during 1985-1986 to 155 (8 at the Professional level and above, 10 General Service, 31 Field Service and 106 local level).

11. The Advisory Committee notes the decreases and increases indicated for various objects of expenditure in the table following paragraph 9 above and the reasons given by the Secretary-General in annex II of his report. The Committee notes the statement of the Secretary-General in annex II, paragraph 11, of his report, that "as efforts to rent alternative quarters at Damascus have been unsuccessful, the Force continues to explore the possibility of relocating the headquarters complex to an area just outside Damascus. Should acceptable facilities be obtained by UNDOF in 1986, the matter will be brought to the attention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for appropriate action, in the event that additional funds are required during the period ending November 1986."

12. The Advisory Committee recommends that the estimate of the Secretary-General for the cost of UNDOF in 1985/1986 should be approved. At the same time, the Committee trusts that UNDOF will continue to be administered with due regard for economy and efficiency. Subject to the decisions to be taken by the Security Council on the renewal of the mandate of UNDOF after 30 November 1985 (see para. 2 above), requirements for UNDOF for the 12-month period from 1 December 1985 to 30 November 1986 should, therefore, not exceed \$36,564,000 gross (\$35,869,000 net). The Committee recommends further that the Secretary-General should be permitted the usual flexibility to transfer credits between items of expenditure, should that be necessary in the interest of good management and efficiency.
