



Twenty-first session
Agenda item 27

QUESTION OF GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Financial implications of draft resolution A recommended by the
First Committee (A/6529, para. 22)Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. D. SILVEIRA da MOTA (Brazil)

1. At its 1156th meeting, on 29 November 1966, the Fifth Committee considered the financial implications of draft resolution A recommended by the First Committee for adoption by the General Assembly (A/6529, para. 22). The Fifth Committee had before it the Secretary-General's statement of financial implications (A/C.5/1089) and heard an oral report on this question by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, on behalf of that Committee.
2. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee informed the Fifth Committee that the Advisory Committee was fully aware of the importance of the study in question, but that it was not in a position to make a judicious appraisal of the character and depth of the work involved, owing to the lack of more precise information as to the programme of work and to the sectors to be included in the proposed study. The Advisory Committee noted that, as the report was required to be submitted to the General Assembly at the twenty-second session, only eight or nine months were available to allow for its preparation. The Advisory Committee concluded that, taking these elements into account, and, moreover, in view of the fact that it entertained some doubts as to the need and availability of the number of consultants upon which the Secretary-General's estimates had been based, the amount of additional financial provision required for the preparation of the proposed study could be reduced from \$75,000 to \$60,000. It, therefore, recommended that the General Assembly be advised accordingly.

3. One delegation asked whether this sum could be further reduced if the Secretary-General were to request the assistance of Governments with a view to their experts participating in the preparation of the study, thus reducing requirements for payment of fees.

4. The Representative of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the Secretary-General would, of course, explore this possibility, but that it was his feeling that the group of consultants engaged for the study should comprise not only government experts but others and should form a representative group reflecting the viewpoints of nuclear, near-nuclear and non-nuclear Powers and the different geographical areas. There would also be need for experts in economic questions in addition to specialists in the field of nuclear weapons. The Secretary-General further advised the Committee that since these costs were to be incurred under section 3, chapter III, of the budget estimates, he might well experience some financial difficulty, bearing in mind that his initial estimates under this heading had already been reduced by some \$154,000 and that, further, he would be required to absorb also the costs of the study on resources of the sea, as proposed by the Second Committee and acted upon by the Fifth Committee at an earlier meeting, within the lower credit recommended by the Advisory Committee.

5. The Fifth Committee decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the proposal of the First Committee, as contained in draft resolution A recommended by the First Committee (A/6529, para. 22), an additional appropriation in the amount of \$60,000 would be required under section 3, chapter III (iii), of the budget for 1967.
