



C O N T E N T S

	<i>Page</i>
Question of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions of Spanish as a working language (A/C.5/L.200) (<i>concluded</i>)	165
Financial implications of measures to limit the duration of regular sessions of the General Assembly (A/2206, A/2269, A/C.5/514)	166
Financial implications of the draft resolutions proposed by the <i>Ad Hoc</i> Political Committee concerning agenda items 22 and 66 (A/C.5/519, A/C.5/520)	166
Budget estimates for the financial year 1953: (a) Budget estimates prepared by the Secretary-General (A/2125 and Add.1, A/C.5/500, A/C.5/511, A/C.5/513, A/C.5/515, A/C.5/516, A/C.5/517, A/C.5/L.203); (b) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2157, A/2268, A/2271, A/2273, A/2274, A/C.5/499) (<i>continued</i>)	
First reading (<i>continued</i>)	167
Audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account (A/2270, A/C.5/518)...	170
Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly:	
(a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2146, A/C.5/L.197, A/C.5/L.205)	171
(b) Committee on Contributions (A/2147, A/C.5/L.195)	171

Chairman: Brigadier-General Carlos P. ROMULO (Philippines).

Question of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions of Spanish as a working language (A/C.5/L.200) (*concluded*)

[Item 62]*

1. Mr. OYARZUN (Chile) proposed the deletion of paragraph 24 of the draft report (A/C.5/L.200), the purport of which was likely to create a dangerous precedent. The basic principle underlying the United Nations was the sovereign equality of all Member States, whatever their financial situation or the percentage of their contribution. That basic principle would be adversely affected by the approval of paragraph 24, which stated that the Spanish-speaking coun-

tries would benefit most from the adoption of Spanish as a working language by the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, but would only contribute a very small proportion of the cost of such a measure.

2. Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands) pointed out that the result of the vote on the Polish delegation's proposal had been omitted in paragraph 45 of the report. Furthermore, "paragraph 38" in the very last line of the report should read "paragraph 37".

3. Mr. JOUBLANC RIVAS (Mexico) gave his whole-hearted support to the Chilean representative's proposal, adding that, while the various arguments put forward by those who had opposed the adoption of Spanish as a working language by the Economic and Social Council were summarized in paragraphs 18 to

* Indicates the item number on the agenda of the General Assembly.

23 of the report, not a single representative had developed the argument, put forward in paragraph 24, that the Spanish-speaking countries would meet only 4.35 per cent of the expenses such a decision of the Council would entail. The Norwegian representative had admittedly said that the Spanish-speaking countries would have to meet only a fraction of the total cost of \$500,000 which, according to him, the adoption of Spanish as a working language by the Council would entail; Mr. Joubanc Rivas had, however, refuted that argument, which was based on information provided by the Australian delegation, when the scale of contributions had not yet been established and the figures given were consequently purely arbitrary. The Mexican delegation hoped that the Committee would delete paragraph 24 of the Rapporteur's report; if not, it would ask the Secretary to inform the Committee of the total sum contributed, with all goodwill, by the Spanish-speaking countries towards the cost of the use of the other working languages of the United Nations.

4. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia), Rapporteur, declared that the argument appearing in paragraph 24 of his draft report had been put forward during the Committee's discussion; the Rapporteur's report was obliged to reproduce all the opinions expressed, whether or not the Committee had taken them into consideration. Paragraph 24 had been drafted in the same spirit of impartiality as had paragraph 12, which gave the arguments in favour of the adoption of Spanish as a working language by the Council. The Chilean delegation's proposal represented a departure from the traditional idea that every report must give a faithful account of the deliberations of the organ in question.

5. Mr. JOUBLANC RIVAS (Mexico) was not convinced by the Rapporteur's explanations. He would continue to support the Chilean proposal, for paragraph 24 presented the question in the wrong light and was liable to have an unfavourable influence on the General Assembly's decision.

6. Mr. HALL (United States of America) thought that it would be difficult to delete paragraph 24; he wondered whether it would satisfy the Chilean representative if the first three sentences of paragraph 12 were added to paragraph 24.

7. Mr. HSIA (China) suggested that the Rapporteur might redraft paragraph 24.

8. The CHAIRMAN proposed that a small working group, composed, say, of the representatives of Chile, Mexico, Norway and the United States, should work with the Rapporteur to redraft paragraph 24 and to correct the mistakes the Netherlands representative had pointed out.

It was so agreed.

9. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) asked that the text of paragraph 24 should be submitted to the Committee when redrafted.

10. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the question of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of Spanish as a working language was to appear on the agenda of a plenary meeting of the General Assembly very shortly; it might perhaps be better, in order to save time, to authorize the working group to produce the final text of paragraph 24 without referring it to the Committee.

11. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) said he had confidence in the working group just set up and he therefore accepted the Chairman's suggestion.

12. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia), Rapporteur, read out the amendment the United Kingdom wished to make to paragraph 16 of the draft report.

13. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to adopt the Rapporteur's report on the question of the adoption by the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions of Spanish as a working language, subject to the amendments and corrections the working group was to make to it.

The Rapporteur's draft report (A/C.5/L.200) was adopted unanimously.

Financial implications of measures to limit the duration of regular sessions of the General Assembly (A/2206, A/2269, A/C.5/514)

14. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia), Rapporteur, explained that the Committee was not called upon to comment on the merits of the proposals submitted by the Secretary-General in paragraph 47 of his memorandum (A/2206), but only on their financial implications as shown in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/514).

15. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should authorize the Rapporteur to inform the General Assembly that, subject to the reservations set forth in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the eighteenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2269), the recommendation of the Secretary-General in paragraph 47 of his memorandum would require additional funds under section 1 of the budget to a total of \$69,500 for a session of nine weeks or \$41,000 for a session of eight weeks.

The proposal was adopted by 37 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

16. The CHAIRMAN, replying to a question by Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands), said that the Rapporteur would also mention the Secretary-General's recommendation concerning the increase in the number of members of delegations for whom the United Nations reimbursed travel expenses.

Financial implications of the draft resolutions proposed by the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee concerning agenda items 22 and 66 (A/C.5/519, A/C.5/520)

17. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) stated that, in view of the terms in which the two draft resolutions proposed by the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee were drawn up, it had not been possible for the Advisory Committee to make a detailed study of the financial implications that would be consistent with rule 152 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure. Paragraph 1 of the operative part of the draft resolution concerning the treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa (A/AC.61/L.7) ran as follows:

"Establishes a United Nations Good Offices Commission consisting of . . . members to be nominated by the President of the General Assembly . . ."

18. Paragraph 1 of the operative part of the draft resolution concerning the question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of the Union of South Africa (A/AC.61/L.16) said even less:

"Establishes a Commission, consisting of . . . , to study . . ."

19. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee could do no more than take note of the statements made by the Secretary-General in documents A/C.5/519 and A/C.5/520 to the effect that:

"Should the Commission conduct its proceedings at the Headquarters of the United Nations and consist of representatives from permanent delegations, no *per diem* or travel payments would be made and, on this basis, the Secretary-General believes that the draft resolution, if adopted by the General Assembly, could be implemented at no additional cost."

20. Despite the vagueness of the two draft resolutions, the Advisory Committee had considered the possibility that the two Commissions might undertake inquiries away from Headquarters. When dealing with the draft resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses, the Advisory Committee would propose the following formula for the necessary provision under that resolution:

"Such commitments not exceeding \$50,000 without the prior consent of the Advisory Committee are required for the United Nations Good Offices Commission on the treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa (or the Commission on the question of race conflict in South Africa)."

21. Mr. ISNOR (Canada) agreed with the two statements by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/519 and A/C.5/520). He wondered, however, whether it would not be better to establish forthwith the maximum figure for the expenses to be incurred by the activities of the two Commissions; perhaps there could be an exchange of views on the subject between the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee.

22. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General had no objection to the establishment of a maximum total for the necessary expenditure.

23. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should authorize the Rapporteur to inform the General Assembly that the Fifth Committee accepted the statements of the Secretary-General as concurred in by the Advisory Committee, on the understanding that the expenses entailed by the Commissions' work away from Headquarters would not exceed \$50,000.

The proposal was adopted by 32 to votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

24. Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands) explained that she had abstained from voting, in keeping with the attitude of the Netherlands delegation in the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee.

Budget estimates for the financial year 1953:

(a) Budget estimates prepared by the Secretary-General (A/2125 and Add.1, A/C.5/500, A/C.5/511, A/C.5/513, A/C.5/515, A/C.5/516, A/C.5/517, A/C.5/L.203); (b) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2157, A/2268, A/2271, A/2273, A/2274, A/C.5/499) (*continued*)

[Item 42]*

First reading (*continued*)

SECTION 5. INVESTIGATIONS AND INQUIRIES: UNITED NATIONS TRIBUNAL IN LIBYA

25. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the words "miscellaneous equipment" and the figure "800" at the end of paragraph 3 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/517) should be deleted; that correction would make no difference to the total figure (\$133,500).

26. In its twentieth report (A/2271), the Advisory Committee recommended a reduction of \$13,500 in the total requested by the Secretary-General.

27. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) stated that the Secretary-General accepted the reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee.

28. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the chapter relating to the United Nations Tribunal in Libya should be entirely deleted from the budget estimates for the financial year 1953; the activities of that Tribunal were inconsistent with the existence of a free government in Libya and were contrary to the provisions of the Charter.

29. Mr. FRIIS (Denmark) asked whether the Secretary-General, in drafting his report (A/C.5/517), had been able to take into consideration the results of the administrative and financial review of the various missions.

30. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) explained that that review would not take place until 1953; it was to be hoped that considerable economies would be made as a result.

31. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the proposal of the USSR delegation for the deletion from the budget estimates for the financial year 1953 of the appropriation of \$133,500 requested under section 5 for the continuance of the United Nations Tribunal in Libya.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 35 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

32. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation for an appropriation of \$120,000 for section 5, in respect of the United Nations Tribunal for Libya.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was approved by 39 votes to 5.

SECTION 5. INVESTIGATIONS AND INQUIRIES: UNITED NATIONS TRIBUNAL IN ERITREA

33. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) noted that the Advisory Committee had based its recommendation (A/2274, para. 7) for reduction of \$21,000 in the Secretary-General's budget estimates (A/C.5/513) on

the assumption that the Tribunal would not be in session throughout the entire year. The Secretary-General recognized that that assumption was well-founded and was not opposed to the recommendation, it being understood that he would be authorized to effect a transfer of funds within section 5 if the appropriation proved inadequate.

34. Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands) expressed surprise that a commitment had been made to pay compensation to the members of the Tribunal in Eritrea who were also members of the Tribunal in Libya instead of a daily subsistence allowance as approved by the General Assembly. She wondered on what authority such payments had been made.

35. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) explained that the Secretary-General had had to take two factors into consideration: (1) the travel and subsistence expenses of the judges; (2) the increased responsibilities to be assumed by those judges and the resulting inconvenience for them. The Secretary-General had considered that the most economical method of implementing resolution 530 (VI) was to designate three members of the Tribunal in Libya as members of the Tribunal in Eritrea, if they agreed to accept supplementary remuneration for their services in Eritrea, and that the powers conferred upon him by the General Assembly resolution enabled him to use that method.

36. Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands) thanked the representative of the Secretary-General for his explanation and reserved the position of her delegation in the event that the same question recurred in other circumstances.

37. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the provision of \$46,700 requested for the Tribunal should be entirely deleted. The USSR delegation considered that the activities of the Tribunal were completely at variance with the feelings of the Eritrean people which yearned to become an independent and sovereign State.

38. The CHAIRMAN put the USSR proposal to the vote.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 33 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

39. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation for an appropriation of \$25,700 for section 5, in respect of the United Nations Tribunal in Eritrea.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was approved by 38 votes to 5.

SECTION 31a. HEADQUARTERS CONSTRUCTION COSTS: INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE WORKING CAPITAL FUND

40. The CHAIRMAN considered that the Secretary-General's proposal for a supplementary provision for completion of the permanent Headquarters (A/C.5/511) and the Australian proposal regarding an increase in the Working Capital Fund (A/C.5/L.203) were sufficiently related to enable the Committee to consider them jointly, together with the wider question of the amount of the Working Capital Fund. The relevant documents on the latter question were the Secretary-General's reports (A/C.5/515 and A/C.5/516) and

the twenty-first report of the Advisory Committee (A/2273).

41. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General would welcome any measure designed to speed the payment of contributions. If experience proved that such measures had the desired effect, the Secretary-General would be the first to draw the necessary conclusion and to recommend a reduction in the amount of the Working Capital Fund. Nevertheless, the Secretary-General wished to emphasize that it was essential for the United Nations at all times to have available the funds required to meet its obligations. Therefore, unless he received firm promises, the Secretary-General considered it advisable not to adopt a decision reducing the amount of the Working Capital Fund until experience showed that contributions were paid more promptly.

42. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) presented a proposal by his delegation (A/C.5/L.203). He briefly reviewed the background of the question and noted that the amount of the Working Capital Fund was now adequate to enable the United Nations to meet all its obligations. On the request of the Committee the Secretary-General had, during the year, undertaken an inquiry on methods whereby, within the limits of their constitutional processes, governments of Member States might be able to pay a substantial proportion of their contributions within the first quarter of each financial year. The results of that inquiry were given in the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/516), and the representative of Australia considered that those results justified some degree of optimism.

43. The situation might well improve further; the Secretary-General had taken into consideration only those promises which represented practically firm commitments. If consideration were given to the information provided by all Member States which had stated that they were able to pay all or part of their contribution during the first half-year, the total contributions received by 30 June would amount to about 30 per cent. If, for example, the total contributions to be paid in 1953 amounted to \$44,000,000, that would mean that by 30 June 1953 the United Nations would have received about \$13,200,000, a considerably higher sum than it had received by 30 June 1952. He therefore considered that if, before the end of the current session, delegations could obtain definite commitments in that regard from their governments, it would be possible to provide the sum of \$1,000,000, requested as a supplementary provision for the construction of the permanent Headquarters, out of the Working Capital Fund.

44. The Australian proposal was based on that possibility; its only effect therefore would be to postpone the appropriation of \$1,000,000. If a sufficient number of governments paid their contributions during the first quarter of 1953, the Committee could then consider reducing the amount of the Working Capital Fund, which would enable it to appropriate \$1,000,000 for supplementary provision for the financial year 1953, at the eighth session of the General Assembly, without increasing the total amount of contributions to be paid by Member States in 1954. In other words, postponement of the appropriation of \$1,000,000 for supplementary provision for Headquarters construction in 1953 could be balanced by a corresponding and simul-

taneous reduction in the amount of the Working Capital Fund. Adoption of the Australian proposal would therefore enable the Committee to ascertain whether it was possible not to increase by \$1,000,000 the total contribution to be paid by Member States in 1953.

45. Mr. JOUBLANC RIVAS (Mexico) noted that, according to a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/508), the total contributions due on 30 October 1952 amounted to \$3,490,436.29 for the financial year 1951, \$11,090,482.21 for the financial year 1952 and \$696,000 for advances to the Working Capital Fund, making a total of \$15,276,921.50. It was obvious that so considerable an amount of arrears was a heavy burden on the Working Capital Fund and that, as the Secretary-General pointed out in his note (A/C.5/515), those arrears might become so great that it would be impossible to draw on the Fund to finance certain expenditures. Moreover, while the General Assembly had decided in resolution 585 (VI) to raise the amount of the Working Capital Fund from \$20,000,000 to \$21,239,203 by the temporary transfer of the balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1950, it was nevertheless a temporary measure and theoretically the amount of the Fund remained fixed at \$20,000,000.

46. In the circumstances, barring a contrary decision by the General Assembly, the previous balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1950 and the balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1951, totalling \$1,619,714, should be applied against assessments for the year 1953.

47. The Mexican delegation was in favour of that method. The Secretary-General was proposing an increase in the amount of the Working Capital Fund because of his concern at the accumulated arrears in contributions. In that connexion, Mr. Joubanc Rivas noted paragraph 38 of the report of the Committee on Contributions (A/2161) relating to measures to facilitate the payment of contributions. Mexico was prepared to co-operate in remedying the present situation; during the first quarter of each year it would therefore pay a substantial proportion of its contribution. He protested, however, against the device of indefinitely having recourse to the Working Capital Fund to finance current expenditures of the Organization pending receipt of contributions. He objected, too, to the trend to increase the amount of the Working Capital Fund each year: that trend did not solve the financial problems of the Secretariat and laid an even heavier share of the common burden on Member States which paid their contributions regularly, particularly those whose assessment had been increased.

48. Under those conditions, the Mexican delegation would vote against any proposal to increase the amount of the Working Capital Fund beyond \$20,000,000 and proposed that the balances of surplus account for the financial years 1950 and 1951, i.e., \$1,239,203 and \$380,511 respectively, should be applied against assessments for the financial year 1953.

49. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) thanked the representative of Australia for his proposal, which the United Kingdom delegation would support. He asked the representative of the Secretary-General how the anticipated contribution payments in future years had been determined (A/C.5/516, para. 6). The

United Kingdom delegation thought that if all Member States which had declared willingness to pay all or part of their contributions during the first six months of each year fulfilled their promise, the problem before the Committee would be substantially eased.

50. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General had tried to avoid both unjustified optimism and excessive pessimism: in his calculations he had taken account of all firm commitments and also of promises which seemed reasonably certain of being fulfilled.

51. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested a separate vote on each of the last two paragraphs of the operative part of the Australian draft proposal (A/C.5/L.203).

The penultimate paragraph of the Australian draft proposal (A/C.5/L.203) was adopted by 32 votes to none, with 12 abstentions.

The last paragraph of the Australian draft proposal (A/C.5/L.203) was adopted by 39 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

The Australian draft proposal as a whole (A/C.5/L.203) was adopted by 36 votes to 5, with 6 abstentions.

52. The CHAIRMAN said that the Working Group which the Committee had just decided to establish in adopting the Australian proposal would be set up under the chairmanship of Mr. Friis, the representative of Denmark. Representatives of the following countries would be members: Australia, Egypt, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan and Poland.

53. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) opposed the proposal of the Secretary-General to increase the Working Capital Fund beyond \$20,000,000 by the temporary transfer of budgetary surpluses for the financial years 1950 and 1951 (A/C.5/515). He referred to the reasons given by the Advisory Committee in its twenty-first report (A/2273): it was possible that Member States in future years would pay a greater part of their contributions during the first half-year than they had done in 1952, the first half-year being the time when the resources of the Fund tended to reach their lowest level; moreover the repayment in January 1953 of the guarantee deposit (\$400,000) in respect of the Parkway Village project would also afford some relief. It should also be remembered that in 1953 it would not be necessary to make an advance for assistance to Palestine refugees in the Near East, an advance which in 1952 had amounted to about \$5,000,000.

54. In the circumstances he saw no reason for increasing the amount of the Working Capital Fund and would vote against the Secretary-General's proposals.

55. Mr. GANEM (France) noted that all delegations wished to ensure that the United Nations had a smoothly operating treasury and to prevent a situation in which the Secretary-General would be unable to meet his obligations. Those questions must be studied in a realistic spirit; that was why he had abstained in the vote on the penultimate paragraph of the Australian draft proposal. He did not think that, before the end of the session, the Working Group which had been established could obtain more precise replies than those made to the Secretary-General's inquiry (A/C.5/516).

56. As the Committee had nevertheless decided to establish that Working Group, it should be consistent. That was why the representative of France, considering that there was no reason to go as far as the representatives of the USSR and Mexico proposed, would vote for the Secretary-General's proposal confirming the temporary transfer which had been decided at the sixth session of the General Assembly, but proposed to defer until the second reading of the budget estimates the decision as to whether the balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1951 should also be transferred.

57. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) agreed that the Secretary-General should have adequate resources at all times. He would therefore vote for the transfer to the Working Capital Fund of the budgetary surpluses for the financial years 1950 and 1951 and also for an appropriation of \$1,000,000 under the 1953 budget.

58. Mr. ISNOR (Canada) noted that the Australian draft proposal had a direct bearing on the question of increasing the Working Capital Fund. Although he was prepared to vote for the Advisory Committee's recommendations concerning the Working Capital Fund, he would be prepared to vote for the French proposal if it was accepted by other delegations. He recalled that at the sixth session of the General Assembly his delegation had invited the Fifth Committee to ask in its report to the General Assembly that careful attention should be paid to all aspects of the question of the Working Capital Fund including, in particular, the direct relationship between the payment of arrears and the size of the Working Capital Fund and the need for the early payment of all contributions.

59. In those circumstances the Canadian delegation would vote in favour of the Advisory Committee's recommendation, while reserving its position on the surplus account for 1951.

60. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) associated himself with the remarks made by the French representative and would vote for his proposal. The best solution to the financial difficulties of the Secretariat was for contributions to be paid during the first months of the year. He hoped that the Australian representative's appeal would be heeded.

61. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) recalled that he had voted for the Australian proposal though he was doubtful concerning its practical results. He, too, thought that the Secretary-General should have all the necessary funds at his disposal, and he would therefore vote for the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

62. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) shared the Australian representative's view. While the French representative might be right, the United Kingdom delegation felt that it would be better to follow the Advisory Committee's recommendations. On the other hand, he could not understand the USSR representative's attitude in voting against the Australian proposal. If the USSR Government were to pay its contribution more promptly the condition of the Working Capital Fund would be considerably improved.

63. Mr. HSIA (China) agreed with the Australian representative and would likewise vote for the Secretary-General's proposal that the balances of surplus

account at 31 December 1950 and 31 December 1951 should be transferred to the Working Capital Fund. The Committee should not be unduly optimistic as regards the accelerated payment of contributions. At the same time, the increase of the Working Capital Fund would not constitute expenditure in itself. A decision to that effect would simply mean that the General Assembly wished to ensure that the Secretary-General would not find himself short of funds.

64. Mr. PSCOLKA (Czechoslovakia) took the same position as the USSR representative. The constant increase of the United Nations budget caused great difficulties to Member States and resulted in delays in the payment of contributions. It was not by increasing the Working Capital Fund that the situation could be remedied. Instead, the USSR proposal should have been adopted setting a ceiling of approximately \$35,000,000 to the total budget. In view of the present level of the budget, however, it would be sufficient to maintain the Working Capital Fund at \$20,000,000. The Advisory Committee had stated in its report that in 1952 the Working Capital Fund had been adequate for all expenses; in all likelihood the same would be true in 1953 and he was therefore opposed to any further increase of the amount.

65. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation that the available balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1950 (\$1,239,203) should be retained in the Working Capital Fund.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted by 40 votes to 8 with 2 abstentions.

66. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the French proposal that the decision in regard to the available balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1951 (\$380,511) should be postponed until the second reading of the budget.

The French proposal was adopted by 17 votes to 11, with 21 abstentions.

Audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account (A/2270, A/C.5/518)

[Item 40]*

67. Mr. FAHMY (Egypt) recalled that at the 352nd meeting of the Committee he had expressed his delegation's concern over the relatively high figure of the administrative expenses in the accounts of certain extra-budgetary funds of the United Nations, in particular those of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and of the United Nations Korean Rehabilitation Agency.

68. The Advisory Committee's report clearly showed the same to be true of the expenditure by specialized agencies of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account (A/2270, paragraphs 7 and 8). He ventured to hope that the administrative costs would be scaled down from their present level (between 7.5 and 9 per cent) to 3.5 per cent, as was promised in the case of the two Agencies.

69. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the proposal recommending the General Assembly to accept the audit reports relating to expenditure by specialized agencies

of technical assistance funds allocated from the Special Account (A/C.5/518) and to take note of the observations thereon presented by the Advisory Committee (A/2270).

The proposal was adopted by 44 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly

[Item 44]*

(a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2146, A/C.5/L.197, A/C.5/L.205)

70. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to a draft resolution submitted by Iran and the Philippines proposing that rule 154 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure should be amended to increase the membership of the Advisory Committee to ten (A/C.5/L.205).

71. Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands) pointed out that the Committee was now concerned with making appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of the Advisory Committee. She did not think that the draft resolution was receivable, as increasing the Advisory Committee's membership was an altogether different matter. It should first be brought before the General Assembly which could then decide whether to include it in its agenda.

72. Mr. FRIIS (Denmark) shared the Netherlands representative's view. As regards the candidacies, the situation would be entirely different if there were four vacancies instead of three.

73. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) further noted that if the draft resolution were adopted, elections would have to be postponed pending the decision of the General Assembly.

74. The CHAIRMAN put to vote the question whether the joint draft resolution of the Philippines and Iran should be considered.

The Committee decided by 24 votes to 14, with 13 abstentions, that the joint draft resolution of Iran and the Philippines (A/C.5/L.205) should not be considered.

75. Mr. KIA (Iran) and Mr. BARTOL (Argentina) moved the postponement of the elections pending the General Assembly's decision.

76. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the motion for postponement.

The motion for postponement was rejected by 31 votes to 8, with 11 abstentions.

77. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Secretariat note (A/C.5/L.197) gave biographical data on the persons proposed for appointment to fill the three vacancies in the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions which would occur on 1 January 1953 consequent on the expiration of the terms of appointment of Mr. William O. Hall (United States of America), Mr. Olyntho P. Machado (Brazil) and Sir William Matthews (United Kingdom).

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Kia (Iran) and Mr. Hagberg (Sweden) acted as tellers.

Number of ballot papers:	51
Number of abstentions:	0
Number of invalid ballots:	4
Number of valid ballots:	47
Required majority:	24

Number of votes obtained:

Mr. Hall (United States of America)....	39
Mr. Blanco (Cuba)	36
Mr. Clough (United Kingdom).....	29
Mr. Hsia (China).....	23

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Hall (United States of America), Mr. Blanco (Cuba) and Mr. Clough (United Kingdom) were recommended by the Committee for appointment as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

78. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) congratulated the three persons elected and thanked the outgoing members of the Advisory Committee on their outstanding services to the Committee.

(b) Committee on Contributions (A/2147, A/C.5/L.195)

79. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Secretariat note (A/C.5/L.195) contained biographical data on the candidates nominated for appointment to fill the three vacancies in the Committee on Contributions which would occur on 1 January 1953 consequent on the expiration of the terms of appointment of Mr. Kan Lee (China), Mr. Stuart A. Rice (United States) and Mr. Mitchell W. Sharp (Canada).

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Kia (Iran) and Mr. Hagberg (Sweden) acted as tellers.

Number of ballot papers:	50
Number of abstentions:	0
Number of invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	50
Required majority:	26

Number of votes obtained:

Mr. Rice (United States of America)....	41
Mr. Burke (Pakistan).....	33
Mr. Kan Lee (China).....	24
Mr. Nosek (Czechoslovakia).....	24
Mr. Sharp (Canada).....	23

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Rice (United States of America) and Mr. Burke (Pakistan) were recommended by the Committee for appointment as members of the Committee on Contributions.

80. The CHAIRMAN stated that yet another ballot had to be taken in order to fill the one remaining vacancy, the voting being restricted to Mr. Kan Lee and Mr. Nosek, the two candidates who had obtained the greatest number of votes in the previous ballot.

81. Some members of the Committee having questioned the correctness of the proposed procedure, the

Chairman referred to rule 94 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure which stated that the number of candidates should not be more than twice the places remaining to be filled.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

At the Chairman's invitation, Mr. Kia (Iran) and Mr. Hagberg (Sweden) acted as tellers.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	48
<i>Number of abstentions:</i>	1
<i>Number of invalid ballots:</i>	1
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	47
<i>Required majority:</i>	24

Number of votes obtained:

Mr. Nosek (Czechoslovakia).....	24
Mr. Kan Lee (China).....	22

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Nosek (Czechoslovakia) was recommended by the Committee for appointment as a member of the Committee on Contributions.

82. The CHAIRMAN congratulated the new members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and of the Committee on Contributions and thanked the outgoing members for the assistance they had rendered to the Fifth Committee.

The meeting rose at 6.45 p.m.