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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1986-1987

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Felix ABOLY-BI-KOUASSI (Côte d'Ivoire)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1987, the General Assembly, on the **recommendation** of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-second session the item entitled "Programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Committee considered this item at its **57th, 58th, 59th** and 61st meetings, on 9, 10 and 11 December 1987. It had before it the **following** documents:

(a) Report of the Joint Inspection **Unit:** follow-up report on organization and methods for official travel (A/41/121), the related report **of** the Secretary-General (A/41/121/Add.1) and that of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/42/790);

(b) Reports of the Secretary-General on standards of **accommodation** for air travel (A/C.5/41/19 and A/C.5/42/9) and the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/42/790);

(c) Reports of the Secretary-General on the hiring and use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups (A/C.5/40/40, A/C.5/41/16, A/41/291-E/1986/58 and **Corr.1** and A/C.5/42/25) and the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/42/838):

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1986-1987 (A/C.5/42/40 and Add.1-16 and 18-36) and the-related report of the Advisory Committee (A/42/863).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

3. At its 58th meeting, on 9 December, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the question of the use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups (A/C.5/41/16 and A/C.5/42/25) and decide to revert to this subject at its forty-third session in the light of the report of the Secretary-General on use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups in the United Nations in 1986-1987 (A/C.5/42/25) (see **para.** 10, draft decision I).

4. At the same meeting, the **Committee** decided, without objection, to recommend to the General Assembly that it should decide to maintain, without change, the overall level of appropriations and income estimates previously voted in its resolutions 41/211 A and B of 11 December 1986 and approve the transfer of credits between sections of the programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 as contained in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/42/40) (see **para.** 9, draft resolution I).

5. At the 59th meeting, on 10 December, the representative of the United States of America, also on behalf of Australia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Standards of accommodation for air travel" (A/C.5/42/L.14). The representative of Australia made an oral revision to the draft resolution **according** to which operative paragraph 4, which had read:

"Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution, noting all exceptions made under paragraphs 2 and 3 above, the reasons for these exceptions and an indication of savings achieved"

was revised to read as follows:

"Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution, noting all exceptions made under paragraph 3 above, and the reasons for these exceptions".

Subsequently, the Netherlands joined in co-sponsoring the draft resolution,

6. At the 61st meeting, on 11 December, the representative of Brazil proposed the following further revisions to the draft resolution:

(a) In operative paragraph 2, after the words "other than the Secretary-General" the words "and the heads of delegations of the least developed countries to the regular and special sessions of the General Assembly" were inserted:

(b) In operative paragraph 3, the words "in the most exigent circumstances" were deleted.

7. At the same meeting, the Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/42/L.14, as orally revised, without a vote (see **para.** 9, draft resolution II).

8. At that meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to **recommend** to the General Assembly that it should (a) take note of the follow-up report of the Joint Inspection Unit on organisation and methods for official travel and the related **comments** of the Secretary-General (A/41/121 and Add.11 and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/42/790); (b) concur with the observations of the Advisory Committee; and (c) request the Secretary-General to report on developments in this matter to the General Assembly at its forty-third session (see **para. 10, draft decision XI**).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

9. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987

A

Final budget appropriations for the biennium 1986-1987

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Taking into account the views and recommendations of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 4, 9, 12 and 13 of its report and the views expressed in the Fifth Committee,

1. Decides to accept the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 13 of its report 2/ that the provisions of regulations 4.3, 4.4 and 5.2 (d) of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations be suspended in respect of regular budget surpluses arising at the end of the biennium 1986-1987;

2. Resolves that for the biennium 1986-1987:

(a) The amount of \$1,711,801,200 appropriated by its resolution 41/211 A of 11 December 1986 shall be maintained with transfers of credits between sections as follows:

1/ A/C.5/42/40 and Add. 1-16 and 18-36.

2/ A/42/863.

Expenditure section	Amount • appropriated by resolution 41/211 A	Increase or (decrease)	Final appropriation
(United States dollars)			
PART I. <u>Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination</u>			
1. Overall policy-making, direction and co-ordination	46 148 900		46 148 900
TOTAL, PART I	46 148 900		46 148 900
PART II. <u>Political and Security Council affairs, peace-keeping activities</u>			
2A. Political and Security Council affairs, peace-keeping activities	84 370 000		84 340 000
2B. Department for Disarmament Affairs	10 255 400	-	10 255 400
TOTAL, PART II	94 625 400		94 625 400
PART III. <u>Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization</u>			
3. Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization	30 677 700	-	30 677 700
TOTAL, PART III	30 677 700		30 677 700
PART IV. <u>Economic, social and humanitarian activities</u>			
4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)	2 666 400	-	2 666 400
5A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation	3 813 400	-	3 813 400
5B. Centre for Science and Technology for Development	4 224 800		4 224 800
5C. Regional Commissions Liaison Office	668 300	36 100	704 400
6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	55 703 500	-	55 783 500
7. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development	20 611 300	-	20 611 300
8. Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters	4 409 300	-	4 405 300
9. Transnational corporations	10 178 700	-	10 178 700
10. Economic Commission for Europe	30 942 500	-	30 942 500

Expenditure section	Amount appropriated by resolution 41/211 A I	Increase or (decrease)	Final appropriation
(United States dollars)			
11. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	34 840 400	-	34 840 400
12. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	39 204 200	-	39 204 200
13. Economic Commission for Africa	46 063 300	-	46 063 300
14. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	32 722 900	-	32 722 900
15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	69 278 100	-	69 276 100
16. International Trade Centre	10 764 000	246 100	11 010 100
18. United Nations Environment Programme	10 117 100	-	10 117 100
19. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	8 364 900	-	8 364 900
20. International drug control	7 158 100	-	7 198 100
21. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	36 701 400	-	36 701 400
22. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator	6 418 300	-	6 418 300
23. Human rights	14 078 100	-	14 078 100
24. Regular programme of technical co-operation	28 325 900	-	28 325 900
TOTAL, PART IV	477 410 900	282 800	477 693 700
PART V. <u>International justice and law</u>			
29. International Court of Justice	11 485 600		11 485 600
26. Legal activities	16 282 100		16 282 100
TOTAL, PART V	27 767 700		27 767 700
PART VI. <u>Public information</u>			
27. Public information	76 182 700	-	76 182 700
TOTAL, PART VI	76 182 700	-	76 182 700
PART VII. <u>Common support services</u>			
28. Administration and management	330 782 900	(313 100)	336 469 800
29. Conference and library services	310 763 900		310 763 500
TOTAL, PART VII	649 546 400	(313)	649 233 300

Expenditure section	Amount appropriated by resolution 41/211 A I	Increase or (decrease)	Final appropriation
(United States dollars)			
PART VIII. <u>Special expenses</u>			
30. United Nations bona issue	16 758 600	30 300	16 788 900
TOTAL, PART VIII	16 796 600	30 300	16 788 900
PART IX. <u>Staff assessment</u>			
31. Staff assessment	261 259 800		261 259 800
TOTAL, PART IX	261 259 800		261 299 800
PART X. <u>Capital expenditures</u>			
32. Construction, alteration, improvomont and major maintenance of premises	30 623 100		30 823 100
TOTAL, PART X	30 823 100		30 623 100
PART XI. <u>Special grants</u>			
33. Grant to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research	600 000		600 000
TOTAL, PART XI	600 000		600 000
GRAND TOTAL	1 711 801 200		1 711 801 200

(b) The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(c) The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

(d) The appropriations for the regular programme of technical co-operation under section 24, part IV, shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, except that the definition of obligations and the period of validity of obligations shall be subject to the following procedures?

- (i) Obligations for personal services established in the current biennium shall be valid for the succeeding biennium, provided that appointments of the experts concerned are effected by the end of the current biennium and that the total period to be covered by obligations established for these purposes against the resources of the current biennium shall not exceed twenty-four work-months;
- (ii) Obligations established in the current biennium for fellowships shall remain valid until liquidated, provided that the fellow has been nominated by the requesting Government and accepted by the Organization and that a formal letter of award has been issued to the requesting Government;
- (iii) Obligations in respect of contracts or purchase orders for supplies or equipment recorded in the current biennium will remain valid until payment is effected to the contractor or vendor, unless they are cancelled;

(e) In addition to the appropriations voted under paragraph 2 (a) above, an amount of \$19,000 is appropriated for each year of the biennium 1986-1987 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

Final income estimates for the biennium 1986-1987

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1986-1987:

1. The estimates of income other than assessments on Member States in the amount of \$304,745,100 approved by its resolution 41/211 B of 11 December 1986 shall be maintained as follows:

Income section	Amount		
	appropriated by resolution	Increase or (decrease)	Final appropriation
	41/211 B		

(United States dollars)

PART I. Income from staff assessment

1. Income from staff assessment	265 126 700		265 126 700
TOTAL, PART I	265 126 700		265 126 700

PART II. Other income

2. General income*	31 933 400		31 933 400
3. Revenue-producing activities*	7 685 000		7 685 000
TOTAL, PART II	39 618 400		39 618 400
GRAND TOTAL	304 745 100		304 745 100

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

DRAFT RESOLUTION I I

Standards of accommodation for air travel

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/198 of 21 December 1977, 35/217, section X, of 17 December 1980 and 37/237, section III, of 21 December 1982 on first-class travel in the United Nations,

Also recalling resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, in which it approved recommendation 38 (2) as contained in the report 3/ of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, which states that as a rule, first-class air travel should be limited to the Secretary-General 1,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel 4/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 5/

2. Decides that all individuals, other than the Secretary-General and the heads of delegations of the least developed countries to the regular and special sessions of the General Assembly, whose travel is financed by United Nations organizations and programmes and who were previously entitled to first-class accommodations will be required to travel at the class immediately below first class;

3. Authorizee the Secretary-General to exercise his discretion in making exceptions to allow first-class travel on a case-by-case basis;

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

4/ A/C.5/42/9.

5/ A/42/790.

4. **Requests** the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly **on** the implementation of the **present** resolution, **noting all** exceptions made **under** paragraph 3 above, and the reasons **for** these exceptions.

* * *

10. The Fifth **Committee** also recommends to the General Assembly **the adoption** of the following draft **decisions**:

DRAFT DECISION I

Use of experts, consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups

The General Assembly,

(a) **Takes note** of the reports of the Secretary-General on the use of experts, consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups; 6/

(b) **Decides** to **revert** to this **subject** at its forty-third session in the light of the **report** of the Secretary-General on the use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups in the United Nations in 1986-1987. 7/

DRAFT DECISION II

Organisation and methods for official travel

The General Assembly,

(a) **Takes note** of the follow-up report of the Joint Inspection Unit on **organization** and methods for official travel and the related comments of the Secretary-General 8/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 9/

(b) **Concurs** with the observations of the Advisory Committee;

(c) **Requests** the Secretary-General to **report** on developments in this matter to the General Assembly at its forty-third session.

u A/C. 5/40/40, A/41/291-E/1986/58 and Corr. 1, A/C. 5/41/16 and A/C. 5/42/25.

7/ A/C. 5/42/25.

8/ A/41/121 and Add.1.

9/ h/42/790.