

United Nations

Nations Unies

UNRESTRICTED

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY

ASSEMBLEE  
GENERALE

A/736  
25 November 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Dual Distribution

Third session

THREATS TO THE POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL  
INTEGRITY OF GREECE: REPORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE BALKANS

(Financial implications of the draft resolution proposed  
by the First Committee (A/728))

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. O.P. MACHADO (Brazil)

1. In accordance with rule 142 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and with the request of the President in his letter dated 15 November 1948 (A/C.5/256), the Fifth Committee, at its 163rd meeting, considered the financial implications of the draft resolution adopted by the First Committee relating to the Special Committee on the Balkans (A/C.1/379)\*
2. As a basis for its consideration of these implications, the Fifth Committee had before it, in addition to the draft resolution of the First Committee and estimates submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/254), a report thereon by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ninth report of 1948, A/721), submitting the following recommendations:
  - (a) That reimbursement of expenses incurred by nations which have provided observers and equipment should not be made by the United Nations in respect of the period prior to 1 January 1949;
  - (b) That while a rate of subsistence allowance of \$16 a day might be appropriate for a short-term period, there was need for the rate to be reviewed with a view to achieving some reduction on this item as well as on the item for travel of staff.

\* The text of the draft resolution is now reproduced in document A/728

(c) That having regard to the heavy burden in terms of dollar currency which the cost of per diem allowance for observers will impose upon the Members of the Organization, attention should be drawn to the powers conferred upon the Secretary-General under paragraph 2 of resolution B concerning the scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations, as adopted by the General Assembly on 18 November 1948 (A/702);

(d) That the estimates submitted by the Secretary-General totalling \$1,347,520 should be approved at a figure of \$1,258,200, comprising \$508,200 for the headquarters of the Special Committee and \$750,000 for the observation groups (a reduction of \$89,320 in the estimate submitted by the Secretary-General on the item for observation groups).

The Secretary-General having signified his acceptance of the modification proposed by the Advisory Committee, the recommendations of the latter were adopted as a basis for discussion by the Fifth Committee.

3. In the course of the ensuing discussion, the representatives of Yugoslavia, Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics voiced their disapproval of the estimates submitted on constitutional as well as budgetary grounds. Regret was also expressed by those representatives that any action on this item should be taken by the Fifth Committee pending the outcome of current discussions between the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General and the Chairman and Rapporteur of the First Committee, acting as conciliators jointly, and representatives of the four Balkan States concerned, as provided for in the draft Australian resolution which had been approved unanimously by the First Committee.

4. A proposal by the representative of the United States of America to increase the estimate for transportation of and per diem allowance for delegations by \$89,100 in order to provide for one alternate in addition to one representative from each Government having membership on the Special Committee was approved by 28 votes to 6, and 7 abstentions. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee, as modified by the United States proposal, were then approved, on a roll-call vote, by 36 to 6, and no abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Canada, China, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Greece, India, Iraq, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Syria, Turkey, Union of South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America and Venezuela.



Against:

Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, Poland,  
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics and Yugoslavia.

Abstentions:

None.

5. The Fifth Committee, therefore, has the honour to inform the  
General Assembly that, in its opinion, the effect on the budget estimates  
for 1949 of the proposal concerning the continuation of the Special Committee  
on the Balkans with the functions conferred upon it by the draft resolution  
of the First Committee and by General Assembly resolution 109 (II) will be  
to increase such estimates by a total of \$1,347,300.

-----