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Agenda item 122

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Eduardo Manuel da Fonseca Fernandes **Ramos** (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 4th, 15th and 16th meetings, on 27 September and on 23 and 25 October 2000. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/55/SR.4, 15 and 16). An addendum to the present report will reflect the further consideration of the item by the Committee during the fifty-fifth session.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee on Contributions;¹

(b) Letter dated 17 July 2000 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee, transmitting a letter dated 30 June 2000 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.5/55/2);

(c) Letter dated 26 September 2000 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee, transmitting a letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.5/55/12).

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/55/11).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.7/Rev.1

4. At the 16th meeting, on 25 October, following informal consultations, the representative of Portugal and Rapporteur of the Committee introduced a draft resolution entitled "Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations" (A/C.5/55/L.7/Rev.1), and orally revised it by replacing the word "discussed" by the word "requested" in operative paragraph 6.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/55/L.7/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 7).

6. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of France (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Cuba, the Comoros, Australia (on behalf also of Canada and New Zealand), India, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Japan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Brazil, Mexico and the Philippines (see A/C.5/55/SR.16).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Scale of assessments for apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/215 B of 22 December 1997, 53/36 C of 18 December 1998 and 54/237 C of 23 December 1999,

Having considered the letter dated 17 July 2000 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 30 June 2000 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions regarding the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions,²

Having also considered the letter dated 26 September 2000 from the President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 25 September 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations appending a letter from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan,³

Reaffirming also the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

² A/C.5/55/2.

³ A/C.5/55/12.

2. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, to avoid difficulties being experienced by the Organization;

3. *Decides* that Burundi, the Comoros, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until 30 June 2001;

4. *Decides also* that Kyrgyzstan would be permitted to vote from 1 January 2001 until 30 June 2001 should it fall at that time in arrears under Article 19;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to ensure the sound financing of the United Nations, to review the implications of the calculation of assessed contributions in arrears for the purpose of the application of Article 19 of the Charter at the beginning of each calendar year and at the beginning of the financial peacekeeping period on 1 July of each year, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed fifty-fifth session;

6. *Decides*, subject to the outcome of negotiations in the General Assembly on the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions thereon, as requested in paragraph 5 above, at the main part of its fifty-sixth session and subject to further decision on its implementation by the General Assembly, to compare arrears with the amount actually assessed and payable for the preceding two full years for the purpose of the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to further consider the indexation of arrears, interests on arrears, multi-year payment plans, early reimbursement to troop-contributing countries and further suggestions for measures to encourage the timely, full and unconditional payment of assessed contributions, taking into account the experience with incentives and sanctions for the payment of assessed contributions of other United Nations organizations and other multilateral and regional organizations, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session;

8. *Calls upon* the Committee on Contributions to give more detailed information and adequate reasons and rationale when making its recommendations.