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Chairman: Mr. G. G. TCHERNOUCHTENKO
 (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic).

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Olivier (Canada), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 74

Budget estimates for the financial year 1969 (continued) (A/7125, A/7205, A/7207, A/7236, A/7255, A/7280, A/7304, A/7336, A/7337, A/7339, A/7340, A/7341, A/7351, A/7356, A/7359, A/7366, A/7367 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1168, A/C.5/1169 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1175-1179, A/C.5/1182, A/C.5/1183, A/C.5/1185, A/C.5/1186 and Add.1, A/C.5/1187-1189, A/C.5/L.943, A/C.5/L.948, A/C.5/L.950, A/C.5/L.951, A/C.5/L.954, A/C.5/L.956, A/C.5/L.959-L.961)

Sound recordings of meetings of United Nations bodies (A/7356, A/C.5/1187)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the proposals contained in a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1187) concerning sound recordings of meetings of United Nations bodies; the Secretary-General had estimated that the adoption of those proposals would involve the expenditure of \$23,000 in 1969 and approximately \$22,000 per year for the

three following years. In its related report (A/7356), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions had recommended that the amount requested for 1969 should be reduced to \$15,000.

2. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) noted that the Secretary-General in his note proposed uniform procedures for the production of sound recordings of current and future meetings of United Nations bodies and pointed out that it was necessary to re-record on magnetic tape a substantial number of sound recordings which were showing signs of serious deterioration.

3. The first of those proposals had no significant financial implications, or \$3,000 for 1969. On the other hand, the second proposal, re-recording on magnetic tape, would, in the Secretary-General's view, involve an estimated expenditure of approximately \$80,000 over a period of four years, mainly for over-time costs for regularly employed telecommunications engineers.

4. While agreeing that old recordings should be re-recorded on magnetic tape, the Advisory Committee hoped that the work could be done, for the most part, when the staff and equipment were not fully utilized, rather than largely on an over-time basis. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended that the amount requested by the Secretary-General for 1969 should be reduced from \$23,000 to \$15,000.

5. Mr. KAKAMBA (Uganda) asked whether, before submitting the proposal, the Secretariat had studied all the recent advances in the manufacture of magnetic tape, so as to ensure that only the most up-to-date and durable material would be used and that similar expenditure would thereby be avoided in the future.

6. Mr. KIRKBRIDE (Secretariat) assured the Committee that the question had been studied very carefully and that the new magnetic tape would last almost indefinitely. There was every reason to hope that there would be no need to repeat the operation.

7. Mr. MARRON (Spain) noted that the amount of \$80,000 requested by the Secretary-General related mainly to the payment of over-time and that the Advisory Committee, believing that the work might be organized in a manner which would require less over-time, had recommended a reduction of \$8,000 for 1969. The Spanish delegation wondered whether it would not be possible to adopt the same procedure for the three years after 1969.

8. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), referring to the representative of Uganda, confirmed that the question of the quality of the magnetic tape

had been carefully studied. Furthermore, since the operation would be spread over four years, technical advances made during that period would be taken into account.

9. In reply to the representative of Spain, he said that the Advisory Committee's recommendation was based mainly on an estimate and not on precise data. Consequently, the reduction recommended related only to the first year. Whether or not a similar reduction would be recommended for the three years after 1969 would depend on the results obtained.

10. Mr. TARDOS (Hungary) asked why the appropriation requested had not been included in the budget estimates.

11. Mr. KIRKBRIDE (Secretariat) replied that, at the time when the estimates had been prepared, the Secretariat had not had all the information it needed for including the proposal in the budget estimates for 1969.

12. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should approve the Secretary-General's proposals within the financial limit of \$15,000 for 1969, as recommended by the Advisory Committee.

It was so decided.

First reading (continued) (A/C.5/L.943)

SECTION 12. SPECIAL EXPENSES (A/7205, A/7207, A/7351, A/C.5/1188, A/C.5/L.961)

13. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider, in first reading, section 12 of the budget estimates. The Advisory Committee, in its main report (A/7207, para. 261) had concurred with the amount of \$8,983,200 requested in the budget estimates for the financial year 1969 (A/7205). In document A/C.5/1188, the Secretary-General proposed that the International School at Geneva should be accorded a further grant of \$30,000 in 1969. The Advisory Committee had also approved that proposal (see A/7351, para. 8). The total amount requested under section 12 was therefore \$9,013,200. The amount to be considered on second reading would be higher as a result of the revised estimates which were to be submitted at a later date for the items which were so far included only on a pro-memoria basis.

14. The Chairman also drew the attention of members of the Committee to draft resolution A/C.5/L.961 concerning the United Nations bond issue.

15. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) observed that the appropriation requested for 1969 under section 12 amounted to \$9,013,200, excluding chapter II (United Nations International School, New York), chapter VI (United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law) and the financial implications of any action which the General Assembly might take in connexion with the integrated educational and training programme established under General Assembly resolution 2349 (XXII). The Advisory Committee had not recommended any reduction in that estimate.

16. With regard to the grant towards the extension and improvement of the physical facilities of the

International School at Geneva (see A/C.5/1188), the Advisory Committee was not opposed to the recommendation by the Secretary-General that the General Assembly should accord a further grant of \$30,000 to the International School at Geneva in 1969, on the understanding that that amount, together with the contributions voted by the General Assembly in 1967 and 1968, should be credited to the special trust fund already established for that purpose. The Advisory Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should submit to the General Assembly, at its twenty-fourth session, a detailed report indicating the amount of the funds raised and thus provide a pointer as to the continued usefulness of a contribution to the International School at Geneva under the regular budget of the United Nations.

17. The Secretary-General had not yet indicated to the Advisory Committee whether he intended to request funds in 1969 for the United Nations International School in New York, the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, or the integrated educational and training programme established under General Assembly resolution 2349 (XXII). It should be remembered that in 1968 the appropriations approved under those three chapters had amounted to a total of \$199,000.

18. Lastly, expenditure relating to assistance in cases of natural disaster furnished under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2034 (XX) had also been included under section 12 in previous budgets. The Third Committee was currently considering that question, and the Advisory Committee would submit its recommendations in that connexion in a separate report.

19. Mr. CASTRO (Brazil) wished to state briefly the position of certain countries, including Argentina, India, Nigeria and Brazil with regard to the financing of United Nations bonds.

20. Since 1963 provision had been included each year in the regular budget to cover payment of interest and repayment of instalments on the principal of bonds issued by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1739 (XVI), subsequently modified by resolutions 1879 (S-IV) and 1989 (XVIII). That provision would remain one of the major items of expenditure of the regular budget until the twenty-fifth instalment was paid in 1988. The estimate for 1969 amounted to \$8.7 million. The receipts from the sale of bonds — \$169,905,679 — had been entirely utilized to finance peace-keeping operations in the Congo and in the Middle East. In fact, the bonds had represented the only source for financing those operations between June 1962 and July 1963.

21. The expenses incurred in connexion with those operations had been recorded in separate accounts; logically, therefore, they should not be financed by the regular budget. However, they were being financed from the regular budget, and consequently the cost of repaying the bonds was not being shared according to the criteria which applied to the apportionment of contributions to those operations among Member States and in which due recognition had been given to the relatively limited capacity

of economically less developed countries to contribute to major peace-keeping operations. In 1966 some members of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies had drawn attention to that inconsistency, and the views expressed at that time were to be found in paragraphs 116 to 118 of the Ad Hoc Committee's second report.^{1/} During the twenty-first session the Fifth Committee had taken up the question again and a draft resolution (A/C.5/L.876^{2/}) had been submitted by the representatives of Argentina, Brazil, India and Nigeria. That draft had recognized that the inclusion in the regular budget of a provision to pay the interest and instalments of principal due on United Nations bonds was inconsistent with related financial decisions of the General Assembly which had adopted special criteria designed to take into account the relatively limited capacity to contribute of the economically less developed countries, and had decided, in the interests of equity, to establish a special account for the annual financing of the bond issue according to the principles set forth in document A/AC.113/R.18.^{3/} During the debate, and in view of criticisms and opposition voiced chiefly by delegations of some highly developed countries, the delegation of Cameroon, in consultation with the sponsors of the draft resolution, had submitted an amendment (A/C.5/L.877^{4/}) proposing that a working group of seven members appointed by the President of the General Assembly should be set up to study the problem of the amortization of and payment of interest on the bonds and to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session a detailed report containing such recommendations as it might consider appropriate.

22. Since that proposal had not received sufficient support in the Fifth Committee, it had been agreed to include in the Committee's report to the General Assembly a paragraph^{5/} indicating that the Committee had decided to postpone further discussion of the subject until the twenty-second session. At the twenty-second session it had been felt that, in view of the difficult problems facing the Fifth Committee at that time, it would be more appropriate to postpone the question until the twenty-third session in the hope that all concerned would in the meantime have had the opportunity for further study of the matter. The sponsors of the draft resolution had stressed that they intended in any event to request a vote on the draft resolution at the twenty-third session.

23. Fully aware of the desirability of establishing the broadest possible agreement in the Fifth Committee, the sponsors of the draft resolution had reviewed the whole matter with the utmost care. The inclusion in the regular budget of a provision relating to the bonds gave rise to problems connected with the growing deficit of the Organization, largely owing

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343.

^{2/} Ibid., agenda item 74, document A/6631, para. 69.

^{3/} Same text as document A/AC.113/18 (see Official Records of the General Assembly, Fourth Special Session, Annexes, agenda item 7).

^{4/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 74, document A/6631, para. 72.

^{5/} Ibid., para. 76.

to the fact that some Member States, for reasons of principle, refused to pay their share of the appropriations for the bonds. The sponsors of the draft resolution had arrived at the conclusion that the problem required further study and clarification and that it would not be entirely unreasonable to hope for a constructive settlement. With that in mind, they had agreed that it would be preferable at that juncture to call for a study to be undertaken by an expert body which enjoyed the confidence of the General Assembly—namely, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. As a result, the delegations of Argentina, Brazil, India and Nigeria were now submitting draft resolution A/C.5/L.961, which contained a proposal that was moderate and reasonable, especially when compared with the text of the draft resolution submitted by the same delegations to the General Assembly at its twenty-first session.

24. The operative paragraph of the new draft resolution avoided polemics and limited itself to recommending a procedural step by referring the question of financing the bonds to the Advisory Committee. The proposed study was to be undertaken in the light of the views expressed by various delegations at the twenty-first, twenty-second and twenty-third sessions of the General Assembly. The sponsors of the draft resolution felt that it constituted a minimum request and hoped that it would be adopted by the Fifth Committee without undue opposition or delay. They were certain that the report to be prepared by the Advisory Committee and considered by the General Assembly in 1969 would help to settle the problem and would result in a solution which was fair and equitable to the developing countries and to the Organization as a whole.

25. In conclusion, he wished to make it clear that, in putting forward their "minimum" proposal, the sponsors of the draft resolution were by no means renouncing their positions on the question and still maintained that it was essential to comply with the General Assembly decisions concerning the financing of major peace-keeping operations and that the special situation of the developing countries should be taken into account in the matter of repayment of the bonds.

26. Mr. RHODES (United Kingdom) stated that his delegation was unable to support the draft resolution submitted by Argentina, Brazil, India and Nigeria.

27. He wished first to remark that the key resolution which authorized the Secretary-General to issue the bonds, determined the conditions of issue and repayment and prescribed the method of financing the repayment and payment of interest was General Assembly resolution 1739 (XVI). Resolutions 1878 (S-IV) and 1989 (XVIII) did not more than extend the time-limit for the sale of the sale of the bonds and consequently were not relevant to the present discussion. Moreover, the reference to "prior resolutions" in the third preambular paragraph was misleading. Finally, it could be argued that the fourth preambular paragraph reflected only one point of view, since it ignored the fact that some delegations had clearly stated that there should be no tampering with the clauses and conditions provided by resolution 1739 (XVI) with regard to the bond issue.

28. Resolution 1739 (XVI) was the only one that was

30. In seeking to define the cause of the problem he

and be adjusted to take into account the expatriation factor and cost-of-living differences between Geneva and the country where the highest civil service salaries were paid. The Noblemaire principle had been accepted from the earliest days of the United Nations as the basis for establishing the salary scales for the Professional and higher categories and had subsequently been revised on various occasions. In 1965, however, while recommending a 4 per cent interim increase in salaries, ICSAB had considered that the whole salary system needed re-examination and had drawn attention to certain anomalies in the application of the Noblemaire principle. For example, because the cost of living was higher in New York, Paris and Rome than at Geneva and a higher post adjustment was therefore paid in those cities, a United States, French or Italian staff member received higher remuneration in his own country than at Geneva. In those circumstances, there was no expatriation inducement. In addition, ICSAB had indicated that it intended to consider carefully the far-reaching consequences which a modification of the Noblemaire principle would undoubtedly have and had explained, in paragraph 114 of its report on its thirteenth session,^{6/} how it planned to proceed. He read out that paragraph, which was referred to in operative paragraph 1 (a) of draft resolution A/C.5/L.959. The Advisory Committee, for its part, had indicated in its report that the ICSAB review should also include certain other matters, such as:

"... the effect of the present system on the remuneration of international staff serving in their own countries; the validity of the present comparisons between United Nations salaries and the salaries in the highest paid home civil service; ... and also whether a scale which is in effect based on the scale of the country with the highest paid civil service should be considered as appropriate to the base city ...".^{7/}

46. It appeared from document A/7236 that, after completing the re-examination, ICSAB had reached the conclusion that no changes needed to be made in the salary structure as such, but that it would be desirable in future to establish the salary scales less by reference to the levels of the civil service of one particular Member State than by a study of "world market rates" for the skills required by the organizations. Between such surveys, which would be relatively infrequent, adjustments might be made on the basis of a specially constructed salary index, based on the movement of real incomes in the civil services of the seven countries in which headquarters of United Nations bodies had been established. The Advisory Committee had noted, in that connexion (A/7280, para. 6), that the thinking of ICSAB was still tentative as to the scope of the survey that would be necessary in order to determine "world market rates". It trusted that such a survey would not be reduced to a search for the highest rates of pay and that it would take into account the rates applicable in the various cities where there were concentrations of international

civil servants, including the seats of the regional economic commissions.

47. There was no doubt that the concept of "world market rates" would have far-reaching implications. As ICSAB itself had recognized, it would mean the replacement of a principle applied over the past twenty years by an altogether new one—which might create administrative and political difficulties. The adoption of the "world market rate" principle by the United Nations and its family of organizations might have indirect repercussions for some Member States—particularly developing countries—which suffered from a shortage of technicians and experts in various fields and were more or less competing with the international organizations in that regard. Consequently, the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.959, which included the Sudanese delegation, wanted the important study to be made by ICSAB to be brought to the attention of Member States. Hoping that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously, the sponsors had agreed—in order to show the usefulness and importance of the observations made by the Advisory Committee in its report at the twentieth session^{7/}—to revise the text of operative paragraph 1, sub-paragraph (a), by adding the following words: "in the light of the observations of the Advisory Committee contained in paragraph 45 of its report (A/6056^{7/})" (see A/C.5/L.959/Rev.1).

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses (continued)*
(A/7336)

48. The CHAIRMAN wondered whether the lack of speakers on the subject meant that the Committee, which had been aware for several days that it was to be considered, generally concurred in the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee in its report (A/7366) and was prepared to adopt the draft resolution contained in annex I thereto. He should like to know whether his interpretation was correct.

49. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Advisory Committee's recommendations were aimed at defining those expenses, unrelated to the maintenance of peace and security and to the activities of the International Court of Justice, which came within the scope of the resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses adopted by the General Assembly every year. Under the terms of that resolution, the Secretary-General was authorized, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, to enter into commitments which were not foreseen at the time the budget estimates were adopted. Between sessions of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General had hitherto been able to meet unforeseen expenses by applying savings made under certain items of the budget and effecting transfers between sections with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee. In substance, therefore, the Advisory Committee's recommendations did not alter the existing state of affairs.

50. However, in paragraph 27 of its report, the Advisory Committee suggested a new procedure, recommending that in future, budgets should include a special appropriation line for minor contingency

^{6/} Ibid., Twentieth Session, Annexes, agenda item 77, document A/5918/Add.1.

^{7/} Ibid., document A/6056, para. 45.

*Resumed from the 1268th meeting.

expenses. In support of that proposal, the Advisory Committee cited paragraph 41 of the second report^{8/} of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. But when the Ad Hoc Committee had made that recommendation, it had had in mind not the United Nations but the specialized agencies and the specialized agencies only. Unlike the Secretary-General, the heads of the agency secretariats were not authorized to invoke the provisions of a resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses in order to meet those expenses. In an emergency, they were therefore forced to infringe the principles of sound financial discipline and draw upon the working capital fund. Indeed, it was to put a stop to that practice that the Ad Hoc Committee had proposed a special appropriation line in the budgets of the specialized agencies. For the United Nations, it would be totally useless to create such a new budget line.

51. The task of the Advisory Committee was to discover how unforeseen and extraordinary expenses could be limited to an absolute minimum and to ensure that funds used for that purpose covered expenses which were really unforeseen. In the opinion of the Soviet Union delegation, the Advisory Committee's recommendations were not a step in the right direction. It would have expected the Advisory Committee, for example, to analyse all the relevant data and, on the basis of previous practice, to work out a definition which would enable the Organization to meet truly unforeseen expenses. The Advisory Committee should go into the question more deeply, and the Fifth Committee should not take any final decision for the time being.

52. Mr. WILTSHIRE (Trinidad and Tobago), referring to the Chairman's remarks, said that many delegations were endeavouring by their own devices to complete the insufficient information before the Committee on the subject of unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. They were determined not to speak on the subject until they had formed a definite opinion; their silence did not mean consent, and his delegation was already in a position to state that it did not go along with the recommendations contained in the Advisory Committee's report.

53. Mr. MSELLE (United Republic of Tanzania) agreed with the previous speakers: the question was of such vital importance that it was only fair that delegations should have ample time to study the Advisory Committee's report—the Advisory Committee had had a year to prepare it.

54. Moreover, there was no question that the information it contained was insufficient. As the Tanzanian delegation had stated at the twenty-second session (1228th meeting), unless all the relevant data were taken into account, it would be pointless to try to arrive at a precise definition of what constituted "unforeseen and extraordinary expenses". There was at least one fundamental omission in the Advisory Committee's report: it did not contain an analysis of the practical effects of previous resolutions on the subject. If the Fifth Committee were to take a decision

without a sufficient knowledge of the facts, it might find itself compelled to request the Advisory Committee to submit a supplementary report at the twenty-fourth session.

55. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that it had not been his intention to reproach delegations for not taking the floor. He had merely wished to draw the Committee's attention to the difficulties it might confront unless it proceeded more rapidly with the consideration of the remaining items on its agenda.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION I SUBMITTED BY THE SECOND COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7426 ON AGENDA ITEM 12* (A/7368, A/C.5/1195)

56. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the note (A/C.5/1195) by the Secretary-General explaining the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution on international co-operation with a view to the use of computers and computation techniques for development that the Second Committee had recommended to the General Assembly for adoption (A/7426, para. 39, draft resolution I). It was estimated that the adoption of the draft resolution would entail additional expenditure amounting to \$27,000 under section 3 of the budget for 1969.

57. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee agreed that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee, an additional amount of \$27,000 for fees, travel and subsistence of consultants, should be appropriated under section 3 of the budget for 1969, so as to enable the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the use of computers and computation techniques for development. The Advisory Committee noted with satisfaction that in the relevant resolution, the Secretary-General was requested to consult, in the preparation of his study, with the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned, a procedure which should ensure co-ordination and avoid duplication of effort.

58. The CHAIRMAN said that if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee accepted the Advisory Committee's recommendation (A/7368, para. 4). If so, the Rapporteur would report directly to the General Assembly that if it adopted the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee, it would have to appropriate an additional amount of \$27,000 under section 3 of the budget for 1969.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 79

Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7344)

Administrative and budgetary procedures of voluntary programmes (A/7344)

59. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions)

^{8/} Ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343.

*Report of the Economic and Social Council.

said that in paragraph 121 of its main report^{9/} on the budget estimates for the financial year 1968, the Advisory Committee had indicated its intention to submit a report to the Assembly at its twenty-third session on the present administrative and budgetary procedures and practices of United Nations programmes financed from voluntary funds. At the same time, it had stated that it did not doubt that the present arrangements were adequate for their internal needs and that they had proved satisfactory to their governing organs. However, although the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies had recommended that the organizations in the United Nations system should apply as much as possible common principles and methods in the preparation of budgets and in regard to their budgetary and administrative procedures, it had not explicitly proposed that the same standards and procedures should apply equally to their voluntary programmes. The Advisory Committee had therefore felt that a greater measure of central review and control of the procedures relating to those administrative budgets was desirable.

60. The report before the Committee (A/7344) dealt with four voluntary programmes, namely those of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research. In view of the fact that the administrative arrangements of the United Nations Development Programme were currently under review, the Advisory Committee had not included that programme in its report.

^{9/} Ibid., Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 7 and errata.

61. As stated in paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee the administrative budgets of UNDP and the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees were now submitted to the Committee for review. The General Assembly might wish it to undertake similar reviews of the administrative budgets of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and UNITAR. With regard to UNICEF, the Assembly might wish to seek the views of the Economic and Social Council on the subject.

62. Although it suggested that the General Assembly might wish to be more closely associated with the administrative budgets of those other voluntary programmes, the Advisory Committee had not studied the formal relationship of those bodies with the General Assembly. It was motivated by the desire to ensure the implementation of uniform practices and procedures for the approval of the administrative budgets of all programmes established by the General Assembly. Should the Fifth Committee and the Assembly consider such a step desirable, the Advisory Committee would be prepared to consider together with the respective heads of those programmes, the necessary measures for such closer consultation.

63. The Advisory Committee therefore felt that the Fifth Committee might decide in principle that a closer relationship should be established between the General Assembly and the voluntary programmes in respect of the review and control of their administrative budgets, and that a paragraph to that effect should be inserted in its report. If it should take that decision, the Advisory Committee, on the basis of a more detailed study of possible arrangements would submit more elaborate proposals at the twenty-fourth session.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.