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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975
AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1974-1977

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution B
recommended by the First Committee (A/9361, para. 15)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernesto C. GARRIDO (Philippines)

1. At its 1627th and 1628th meetings, on 13 and 14 December 1974 respectively, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with the provisions of rule 155 of the rules of procedure, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1562 and Corr.1 and Add.1) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution B recommended by the First Committee (A/9361, para. 15), as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.26). The Committee also had before it document A/C.5/L.1161, containing a draft decision submitted by Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, France, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

2. Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as might be required for the review conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its preparation.

3. In his statement (A/C.5/1562 and Corr.1), the Secretary-General indicated that, following consultations with the sponsors, it was his understanding that the preparatory committee, which has been formed of Parties to the Treaty serving on the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency or represented at the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament, would hold three two-week sessions at Geneva in the course of 1974, the first two without summary records and the third with summary records. The total costs related to the work of the preparatory committee were estimated by the Secretary-General at \$123,000 (\$26,000 for each of

the sessions without summary records and \$71,000 for the session with summary records). With regard to the conference itself, the Secretary-General estimated the related costs at \$205,000, on the assumption that it would meet for a period of four weeks in 1975, that there would be two meetings per day and that summary records would be provided. The Secretary-General estimated at \$8,000 the travel and subsistence costs related to the detail of one substantive staff member to each of the sessions of the preparatory committee and of three staff members to the conference. The total estimate for staff assessment was \$81,000, which would be offset by an equal amount of estimated income from staff assessment.

4. Subsequent to the submission by the Secretary-General of the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution (A/C.5/1562 and Corr.1), he informed the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/1562/Add.1) of the receipt of a communication from the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, who offered to provide certain services free of charge to the United Nations for the holding of the meetings of the preparatory committee at the Agency's headquarters in Vienna. The Secretary-General informed the Committee that, should the General Assembly decide to accept this offer, the financial requirements referred to in his statement (A/C.5/1562 and Corr.1) would be reduced by \$26,000 for each of the sessions held in Vienna, with a possible additional reduction of \$45,000 in the event that IAEA were in a position to provide summary records from its resources. The estimates for staff assessment and income from staff assessment corresponding to the last two figures would be \$6,000 and \$12,000, respectively.

5. In its report (A/9008/Add.26), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions noted that, since at present 61 Members of the United Nations are not Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, it was arguable that the expenses incurred by the Secretary-General in rendering the assistance to the conference requested in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution (A/9361, para. 15, draft resolution B) should not be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations and that, instead, these expenses should be refunded to the Organization under appropriate special arrangements. On the other hand, the Advisory Committee pointed out that, as indicated in the first preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, the United Nations had associated itself with the Treaty after it had been concluded in 1968. Moreover, since the financial implications of the draft resolution had been before the First Committee when it adopted the draft resolution, it must be presumed that it was the intention of the First Committee that the expenses incurred in fulfilling the terms of the resolution should be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations.

6. With regard to the estimated costs, as set out in detail in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/1562 and Corr.1), the Advisory Committee indicated that, having been apprised of the schedule of conferences at Geneva for the periods in question, it accepted the Secretary-General's estimate of the costs likely to be incurred if the conference and all the preparatory meetings were held at Geneva. In connexion with the possible reductions that might be realized in the event that sessions of the Preparatory Committee were held in Vienna, the Advisory Committee indicated that it had not been able to satisfy itself that savings of the order estimated in the addendum to the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/1562/Add.1)

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would materialize for the United Nations budget, given the joint arrangements entered into by IAEA and UNIDO for the provision of conference servicing staff.

Proceedings in the Fifth Committee

7. At the 1627th meeting, on 13 December 1973, it was announced that Colombia, Guinea, Oman and Venezuela had become sponsors of the draft decision (A/C.5/L.1161). The representative of Brazil, on behalf of the co-sponsors, introduced the draft decision, under the terms of which the Fifth Committee, bearing in mind the observations contained in paragraph 2 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.26), would note that the expenses arising out of draft resolution B recommended by the First Committee (A/9361, para. 15), were not expenses of the Organization to be met from its regular budget. Consequently, the Fifth Committee would recommend that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the costs of the services and assistance the Secretary-General is requested to provide for the review conference on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its preparation, in the amounts indicated in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/9008/Add.26), should be borne by the States participating in the review conference and should be refunded to the Organization under appropriate arrangements. In introducing the proposal (A/C.5/L.1161), the representative of Brazil pointed out that the conference would not be a United Nations meeting in the proper sense of the word, since it would be limited to the States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. This meant that 61 States Members of the United Nations, not being parties to the Treaty, would be excluded, while some non-Member States who were parties would be included in the conference. In the view of the sponsors, it would not be logical or just for the entire membership of the United Nations to finance an activity which excluded 61 Member States, but included a number of non-Member States. The representative of Brazil further indicated that the arrangements referred to in the final sentence of the draft decision should be left to the discretion of the Secretary-General, who would ensure that payment was received from the Governments concerned. One delegation recalled that it had repeatedly stated its position of principle against the Treaty and had voted against the draft resolution in the First Committee. For the same reasons, it was opposed to the inclusion of the financial implications of this draft resolution in the regular budget of the Organization.

8. At its 1628th meeting, on 14 December 1973, the Fifth Committee adopted the draft decision (A/C.5/L.1161) without objection. In this connexion, two delegations indicated that, had the draft decision been put to the vote, they would have voted against it. In response to a question, the representative of the Secretary-General confirmed that it would be possible to establish a special account for the receipt of contributions from the States concerned, against which the expenses related to the review conference and its preparation could be charged.

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RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

9. Bearing in mind the observations contained in paragraph 2 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.26), the Fifth Committee notes that the expenses arising out of draft resolution B recommended by the First Committee (A/9361, para. 15) are not expenses of the Organization to be met from its regular budget. Consequently, it recommends that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the costs of the services and assistance the Secretary-General is requested to provide for the review conference on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and its preparation, in the amounts indicated in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/9008/Add.26), should be borne by the States participating in the review conference and should be refunded to the Organization under appropriate arrangements.

10. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, as a consequence of the recommendation contained in paragraph 9 above, no additional appropriation would be required in the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution B recommended by the First Committee (A/9361, para. 15).
