



Eighth session
Agenda item 39

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1954

Advisory Council for the Territory of Somaliland
under Italian administration

(Revised estimates for section 5 (Investigations and Inquiries))

Sixteenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions to the eighth session of the General Assembly

1. The 1954 requirements for the Advisory Council for the Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration are estimated by the Secretary-General at \$169,000 (A/C.5/550).
2. The increase by comparison with the 1953 appropriation (\$145,000) amounts to \$24,000 and arises mainly in respect of the items for temporary assistance and for travel and subsistence of members and staff.
3. An amount of \$18,600 is included in respect of subsistence allowance for the three members of the Council at the rate of \$20 per day each for 310 days. The Advisory Committee considers that there arises in this connexion the question whether, in the case of members of commissions or committees of inquiry (or analogous bodies) the rate of allowance might be reduced after a certain number of months of service in the area. This procedure is adopted as regards staff members assigned to missions in the field, and it is suggested that an extension of the practice to members also should be studied in connexion with the comprehensive review of allowances for members of such bodies to be made during 1954 by the Secretary-General.

4. The manning table for 1954 (A/C.5/550, annex I) shows that four substantive officers are proposed for this mission including a Political Affairs Officer. In commenting on the 1953 estimates the Advisory Committee suggested that a combination of the functions performed by the Principal Secretary and the Political Affairs Officer should be feasible, or alternatively a combination of those performed by the Economic Affairs and Social Affairs Officers. The manning table finally established for 1953 in fact provided for only three substantive officers together with a Public Relations Officer. The last named post is not proposed for 1954.
5. Actual expenditure for 1953 is estimated by the Secretary-General at \$153,000 (supplementary estimates for 1953, A/2534, annex B, paragraph 4). On this basis, the Advisory Committee considers that a sum of \$150,000 would constitute a reasonable provision in respect of 1954 for this mission.
6. An appropriation of \$150,000 is accordingly recommended under section 5, Investigations and Inquiries, representing a reduction of \$19,000 in the estimate submitted by the Secretary-General.
7. The provisional appropriation already recommended by the Advisory Committee^{1/} for section 5 as a whole amounts to \$2,000,000. The estimate in document A/C.5/550 is the first of a series to be submitted as detailed justification for this tentative figure.

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 7, document A/2403, paragraphs 74-76.