

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE
AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS**

**FIRST TO SEVENTEENTH REPORTS
ON THE PROGRAMME BUDGET
FOR
THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACCIS	Advisory Committee for the Co-ordination of Information Systems
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
COPAC	Committee for the Promotion of Aid to Co-operatives
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECWA	Economic Commission for Western Asia
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ICC	International Computing Centre
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
INTELSAT	International Telecommunications Satellite Organization
SWAPO	South West Africa People's Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNIDIR	United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNIFIL	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
UNJSPF	United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund
UNTSO	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization in Palestine
WFP	World Food Programme

First report

Activities of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions (spring and summer 1984)

[Original: English]

[18 September 1984]

A. General

1. The major functions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as defined by the General Assembly in resolution 14 (I), section A, of 13 February 1946, are:

"(a) To examine and report on the budget submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly;

"(b) To advise the General Assembly concerning any administrative and budgetary matters referred to it;

"(c) To examine on behalf of the General Assembly the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies and proposals for financial arrangements with such agencies;

"(d) To consider and report to the General Assembly on the auditors' reports on the accounts of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies."

2. Under rule 156 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the members of the Advisory Committee, no two of whom shall be nationals of the same State, shall be selected on the basis of broad geographical representation, personal qualifications and experience.

3. The members of the Advisory Committee are:

Mr. C. S. M. MSELLE (Chairman)
Mr. Henrik AMNEUS
Mr. Traian CHEBELEU
Mr. Mohamed Maloum FALL
Mr. Enrique FERRER VIEYRA
Mrs. Virginia C. HOUSHOLDER
Mr. Igor V. KHALEVINSKI
Mr. Rachid LAHLOU
Mr. MA Longde
Mr. Mohammad Samir MANSOURI
Mr. Andre^w R. MURRAY
Mr. Carl C. PEDERSEN
Mr. Samuel PINHEIRO-GUIMARAES
Mr. Banbit A. ROY
Mr. Yukio TAKASU
Mr. Christopher R. THOMAS

4. The Advisory Committee met in New York from 1 to 18 May, at Geneva from 22 May to 8 June, at Addis Ababa from 12 to 19 June and at Bangkok from 25 to 29 June 1984. Paragraphs 5 to 19 of the present report discuss in general terms the matters which were before the Committee in each of those locations. Certain other issues which were before the Committee are covered in more detail in paragraphs 20 to 46 below.

B. Meetings in New York

5. In New York, the Advisory Committee met with the representatives of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and with the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and submitted two reports (DP/1984/56 and DP/1984/40) to the Governing Council of UNDP at its thirty-first session (June 1984) dealing, respectively, with:

(a) UNDP: revised budget estimates for the biennium 1984-1985; trust funds established in 1983; and annexes and amendments to UNDP Financial Regulations; 1/

(b) UNFPA: inclusion of the UNFPA deputy representatives and limited core staff in the regular staffing table; and amendments to UNFPA Financial Regulations.

6. The Advisory Committee also considered the UNDP Administrator's proposals, submitted through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, on the administrative budget of the secretariat of the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development for the second half of 1984. This budget is met from voluntary contributions made available to the System.

7. The Advisory Committee submitted a report (UNEP/GC.12/L.6) to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its twelfth session (May 1984), on the administrative and financial matters dealt with in a report by the Executive Director of the Programme (UNEP/GC.12/7).

8. The Advisory Committee also considered a report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for the period from 19 April to 18 October 1984, which was submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/38 A, of 5 December 1983.

9. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/235 C, section I, paragraph 2, of 21 December 1982, the Advisory Committee considered a report of the Secretary-General on the work of the fall 1983 session of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal. Future reports on the work of the Tribunal will be made to the Advisory Committee on an annual basis.

10. Other matters considered by the Advisory Committee included the report of the Secretary-General on conditions of service and compensation for officials other than secretariat officials, and the financing of the administrative costs of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Separate reports on these items will be submitted to the General Assembly at a later stage. (For the report of the Committee on the first of these questions, see document A/39/7/Add.1 below.)

C. Meetings at Geneva

11. In the context of the agenda item entitled "Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency", the Advisory Committee met at Geneva with agency representatives and discussed with them the administrative budgets of their respective organizations and other related matters. The Committee will report on this item to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (see A/39/592).
12. The Advisory Committee held a meeting with the Joint Inspection Unit to discuss questions of common interest. These included, inter alia, the work being done by the Joint Inspection Unit, in the context of its work programme for 1984, on computerized information systems in Geneva-based organizations, field representation of organs and organizations in the United Nations system, and costs and efficiency of the United Nations Secretariat.
13. The Advisory Committee met with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe. An exchange of views was held on the work of the Commission and on matters of common interest relating to its administration.
14. During its meeting with representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Advisory Committee was informed of additional tasks which the Office of the High Commissioner (UNHCR) would have to undertake as a result of new refugee situations, and of the related financial and staffing requirements. The Advisory Committee will take into account that information when it submits, to the Executive Committee of the Programme of the High Commissioner at its thirty-fifth session in October 1984, its observations on the High Commissioner's report on UNHCR assistance activities in 1983-1984 and proposed voluntary fund programmes and budget for 1985 (A/AC.96/639).
15. The Advisory Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP) on WFP Field Costs (WFP/CEA.18/15), which contained information on field costs for 1983 and estimated field costs for 1984. This report, which is submitted to the Finance Committee and the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, was provided to the Advisory Committee pursuant to a request it had made in its report on the WFP Administrative Budget estimates for 1984-1985. In its comments on the report on WFP Field Costs, the Advisory Committee noted that changes might shortly be proposed in the format of the WFP budget and suggested to the Executive Director that certain revised modalities for presenting information on WFP Field Costs might be considered in that context.
16. The Advisory Committee also met with representatives of the Secretary-General who briefed the Committee on the latest situation in the United Nations Office at Geneva concerning technological innovations in the production of publications and documentation, office space requirements and security at the Palais des Nations.

D. Meetings at Addis Ababa and at Bangkok

17. At Addis Ababa, the Advisory Committee discussed with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and his representatives, the adequacy of ECA's conference-servicing facilities. The Advisory Committee will report separately on this issue to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (see

document A/39/7/Add.2 below). The Committee also held a discussion with programme managers on matters of common interest relating to the work of the Commission, and exchanged views with the Resident Representative of UNDP.

18. In the context of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, and in connection with the proposed construction project for the expansion of conference facilities at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Advisory Committee met at Bangkok with the Executive Secretary of the Commission and his representatives. The Committee also held a discussion on matters of common interest with programme managers of ESCAP and exchanged views with the Resident Representative of UNDP.

19. As regards the proposed expansion of the conference facilities at ESCAP, the Committee was informed that following the approval of the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, work has been proceeding on an architectural and engineering study. The schedule called for conceptual designs to be submitted in late July 1984. These would be costed by a quantity surveyor during the month of August, leading to the selection of an appropriate design for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session. The Committee will report to the Assembly at its thirty-ninth session once the report of the Secretary-General has been received. (See document A/39/7/Add.7 below.)

E. Programme-budget performance for the biennium 1982-1983 and proposed transfers among sections

20. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 38/226 A, paragraph 2, of 20 December 1983, the Advisory Committee has concurred with a request by the Secretary-General to transfer credits totalling \$2,858,214 from section 27 to sections 7, 11, 17, 18, 19, 25, 29 and 30 of the programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983.

21. The Secretary-General informed the Advisory Committee that actual expenditures and obligations for 1982-1983, as reflected in the closed accounts, amounted to \$1,462,414,227, as against revised appropriations of \$1,469,639,500 approved by the General Assembly in resolution 38/226 A. This leaves an uncommitted balance of \$7,225,273 or 0.5 per cent of the total amount appropriated.

22. Actual income recorded amounted to \$255,078,741 as against a revised approved estimate of \$256,685,700 (General Assembly resolution 38/226 B of 20 December 1983), resulting in a shortfall of \$1,606,959 or 0.6 per cent. Of this amount, \$51,660 relates to a shortfall in income from staff assessment, which will be charged to the Tax Equalization Fund, while the remaining \$1,555,299 arises from a net overestimation of miscellaneous income (general income having been overestimated by \$2,654,912 and revenue-producing activities underestimated by \$1,099,613).

23. The uncommitted balance of appropriations (\$7,225,273) adjusted for the net shortfall in actual miscellaneous income (\$1,555,299) results in a net surplus of \$5,669,974 at 31 December 1983 in respect of the biennium 1982-1983. The Secretary-General will retain this uncommitted balance in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/116 B, paragraphs 1 (b) and 2, of 10 December 1981.

24. The Advisory Committee was provided with explanations in the case of those sections of the budget which had the most significant surpluses or shortfalls. In a number of sections salaries and common staff costs had been underspent due, in part, to unanticipated vacancy situations which had arisen after the final performance report had been prepared. Surpluses were also noted under such items as printing, travel and contractual services. The largest shortfalls occurred in conference services, where the requirements for temporary assistance and overtime in the last quarter of the year were heavier than anticipated, and in miscellaneous income, due to an error which had been made in the final performance report in the calculation of anticipated refunds from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund.

25. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as at 31 December 1983, unliquidated obligations comprised \$56,582,233 of the total expenditures and obligations for the biennium of \$1,462,414,227. Financial Regulations 4.3 and 4.4 state:

"Regulation 4.3 Appropriations shall remain available for twelve months following the end of the financial period to which they relate to the extent that they are required to discharge obligations in respect of goods supplied and services rendered in the financial period and to liquidate any other outstanding legal obligation of the financial period. The balance of the appropriations shall be surrendered.

"Regulation 4.4 At the end of the twelve-month period provided in regulation 4.3 above, the then remaining balance of any appropriations retained will be surrendered. Any unliquidated obligations of the financial period shall at that time be cancelled or, where the obligation remains a valid charge, transferred as an obligation against current appropriations."

26. Under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 36/116 B, the balance of appropriations surrendered under regulations 4.3 and 4.4 will not be returned to Member States in respect of surpluses arising at the end of the 1980-1981 and 1982-1983 bienniums. In view of the magnitude of the provision for unliquidated obligations, the Advisory Committee sought information on the amounts of unliquidated obligations outstanding at the end of previous bienniums, and the extent to which these obligations have been surrendered in accordance with Financial Regulation 4.4. The following table shows this information for each of the last three bienniums:

<u>Biennium</u>	<u>Unliquidated obligations at end of biennium</u>	<u>Savings on subsequent surrender of obligations</u>	<u>Obligation saved on surrender</u>
	<u>United States dollars</u>		<u>Percentage</u>
1976-1977	27 070 279	7 155 193	26
1978-1979	41 041 596	8 607 024	21
1980-1981	45 932 702	14 748 970	32

27. In respect of the biennium 1982-1983, it is premature to estimate what proportion of the unliquidated obligations of \$56,582,233 may be surrendered at the end of 1984. 2/ Nevertheless, the Advisory Committee is concerned that, if past trends continue, the amount involved may be considerable. This would be in addition to the net surplus of \$5,669,974 already realized for 1982-1983 referred to in paragraph 23 above.

28. While the Advisory Committee did not dispute the technical justifications provided in respect of the net surplus for 1982-1983, it believes that there is an urgent need to improve the procedures for estimating requirements and forecasting expenditures. In this connection, the Committee was informed by the representatives of the Secretary-General that new procedures were being or would be instituted with a view to achieving improvements in these areas.

29. The Advisory Committee intends to re-examine this problem at its fall 1984 session and, accordingly, has requested that it be provided with more information on the measures proposed by the Secretary-General.

F. Inclusion of Chinese among the working languages of the General Assembly and the Security Council

30. In a note submitted to the Advisory Committee at its spring session in New York, the Secretary-General informed the Committee of recent developments concerning the provision of services in the Chinese language. For a number of reasons services in Chinese have not up to now been provided on the same level as the other working languages of the General Assembly and the Security Council. During the thirty-eighth session efforts were made, within the resources then available, to ensure the simultaneous distribution of documentation in Chinese and the more timely provision of summary records in that language. The Committee was further informed that proposals to restructure the Chinese language service would be made to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session and at its fortieth session as part of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987.

31. In the meantime, the Secretary-General requested the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into additional commitments in 1984, in an amount not exceeding \$998,400, initially under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/237 of 20 December 1983, on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985. This amount would provide for the formation of a nucleus for a Chinese Verbatim Unit by the establishment of 18 posts (10 Professional and 8 General Service - initially on a temporary basis for the period from 1 August to 31 December 1984); for temporary assistance equivalent to 24 posts for the period from 1 October to 31 December 1984; and for costs relating to the acquisition of reproduction and specialized equipment, paper, office supplies and furniture, and alterations to premises.

32. The Advisory Committee concurred with the Secretary-General's request, noting that it was his intention to include revised estimates in an amount not exceeding \$998,400 in the context of the first programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/88).

G. Satellite communications for peace-keeping and emergency relief activities of the United Nations

33. The Advisory Committee considered a note from the Secretary-General requesting authority to enter into an immediate lease with the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (INTELSAT) for a space segment capacity (a quarter transponder) on one of INTELSAT's satellites, to meet the telecommunications requirements of the United Nations peace-keeping and emergency relief activities. The lease would have a term of five years at a cost of \$200,000 per annum. The request was made because of the withdrawal from service, at short notice, of the experimental satellite which the United Nations has utilized free of charge since 1976. No financial commitment authority was requested from the Committee in respect of 1984 costs relating to the lease (\$91,500 for the period from 15 July to 31 December) or the non-recurrent start-up expenses (\$26,000), since it was intended to absorb these costs within the existing provisions for peace-keeping activities.

34. The Advisory Committee concurred with the request, noting that the Secretary-General would include it among other proposals he intends to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session in the context of a comprehensive report on communications facilities in the United Nations. (See document A/39/7/Add.12 below.)

H. Human rights

35. In the context of General Assembly resolution 38/237 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985, the Advisory Committee concurred with the Secretary-General's request to enter into commitments in a total amount not exceeding \$517,000 to implement human rights activities resulting from decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1984. These commitments will be reported by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session in the context of his report "Revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1984". (See document A/39/7/Add.6 below.)

I. Rental subsidy at Baghdad

36. The Committee considered a note by the Secretary-General relating to the payment of rental subsidies to internationally-recruited General Service staff at Baghdad. Pending the completion of the permanent residential buildings to be made available by the Government of Iraq, a lease was entered into with the Government in 1982 to accommodate 101 internationally-recruited General Service staff of the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA). Budgetary provision was made in the biennium 1982-1983 for a rental subsidy which would ensure that these staff were not required to pay for rent more than 20 per cent of their net remuneration.

37. No budgetary provision was made for the subsidy in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 because the completion of the permanent residential buildings was initially expected in mid-1983. In his note to the Committee, the Secretary-General indicated that it appeared at the time that the completion of the permanent buildings had been further delayed, and accordingly, it might be necessary to continue with the arrangements throughout the present biennium. In

view of this, the concurrence of the Advisory Committee was sought for the continuation of subsidy payments until the end of 1985, or until the completion of the permanent residential buildings, whichever was earlier. The cost was estimated at approximately \$225,600 for the biennium 1984-1985, but in view of the current high vacancy rate in ECWA, it was expected that sufficient funds would be available in section 14 of the programme budget as a whole for the continuation of the payment.

38. The Advisory Committee concurred with the request of the Secretary-General.

J. Parking in the United Nations garage

39. Pursuant to the Advisory Committee's request in its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, 3/ the Secretary-General reported to the Committee on parking in the United Nations garage.

40. The Committee was informed, inter alia, that the Garage Review Board, established in 1982 by the Secretary-General, had recently completed a review of all parking authorizations except those of delegates 4/ and had established procedures for future annual reviews. According to the Secretary-General, the measures recommended by the Garage Review Board adequately addressed the problem of parking for staff and other qualified users. Consequently, the bulk of the Secretary-General's report dealt with a discussion of the problems of parking diplomatic cars.

41. In the light of the information provided by the Secretary-General and his representatives, the Advisory Committee recommends that the following interim measures be implemented:

(a) Increase the number of parking spaces for delegates from 200 to 300 by immediately making available 100 additional spaces in the second level. This represents one half of the parking spaces recently released by the completion of construction at Headquarters and the reconfiguration of the third basement.

(b) Make available, as of September 1985, an additional 100 spaces for delegate parking during the General Assembly, it being understood that these spaces would be reallocated for staff parking at the completion of the General Assembly's regular sessions.

(c) Eliminate dead storage parking. Those who have been reassigned to another duty station, or those no longer acting in their official capacity, should not be allowed to leave their cars in the garage and their parking privileges should be revoked.

(d) Discontinue the practice of allowing delegation chauffeurs to park their own vehicles in the garage when they remove an official delegation vehicle.

(e) Permit the parking of delegation rented cars (which, by definition, do not have DPL registration) only if they are rented from an established and bona fide rental company. The Advisory Committee notes that this regulation is needed in order to prevent evasion of the garage admission rules and is also important for security reasons.

(f) Limit parking privileges to one car per delegate.

(g) As of September 1985, suspend the parking privileges of any delegate whose parking fees are in arrears by more than three months, it being understood that these privileges will be restored once the arrears have been paid in full. In this connection, the Advisory Committee also suggests that procedures be worked out whereby each mission assumes more responsibility for ensuring that its delegates pay their garage bills. Furthermore, the additional information submitted to the Advisory Committee has led it to conclude that the Garage Administration should compile accurate and up-to-date statistics on DPL and other vehicles owned by delegates and missions and that, for this purpose and for more effective management of the garage, close co-ordination should be maintained with the Protocol and Liaison Service of the Secretariat.

42. The Advisory Committee also notes that the Secretary-General intends to augment the garage administration staff as at 1 January 1985, with one additional clerk (G-2/4) and six Security Officers, the related costs of which would total \$242,600 (gross) in 1985. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that, as indicated in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, 5/ the Garage Administration at Headquarters currently has one General Service post (other levels) and two Security Service posts, and that the 1984-1985 Headquarters garage revenue (gross) has been estimated at \$989,900. In the light of the information submitted to it, the Advisory Committee concurs in the Secretary-General's proposal.

43. The Advisory Committee believes that the effect of the above measures should be continually monitored and evaluated. If further remedial action is warranted, consideration can be given to other measures including an increase in the overnight parking fee or the elimination of 24-hour and overnight parking, particularly during regular sessions of the General Assembly.

K. Other matters

44. Pursuant to the terms of General Assembly resolution 38/236 A, paragraph 2, of 20 December 1983, the Advisory Committee has concurred with a request by the Secretary-General for the exchange of the post at the assistant-secretary-general level in the Office for Special Political Questions in section 1 of the programme budget for a post at the D-2 level in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs under section 6 of the budget, effective 1 April 1984. The regularization of this exchange of posts would be proposed in the context of the first performance report of the programme budget for the current biennium, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (see A/C.5/39/88).

45. In accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 35/217, section II, paragraph 2, of 17 December 1980, the Advisory Committee has concurred with a request by the Secretary-General to establish two extrabudgetary posts until 31 December 1985 - one at the assistant-secretary-general level and the other at the D-1 level. The creation of these posts relates to the preparation and implementation of the activities to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the United Nations. The expenditures incurred would be charged to the Trust Fund for Interest on the Japanese Contribution to the United Nations Special Account.

46. The Advisory Committee took note of the temporary appointment by the Secretary-General, for the period 16 January to 31 December 1984, of a personal representative at the assistant-secretary-general level. This personal representative would follow, on behalf of the Secretary-General, ongoing global and regional efforts to increase confidence in international relations. The cost of the temporary appointment would be charged against the Trust Fund for Personal and Real Property Willed to the United Nations under a bequest that specified that the funds shall be used for the furtherance of peace.

Notes

1/ Reference was also made in the Advisory Committee's report (DP/1984/56) to the Committee's consideration of two other reports by the UNDP Administrator on government contributions to local office costs and the concept of extrabudgetary resources.

2/ Certain obligations incurred under section 24 of the regular budget remain valid for a period longer than 12 months. The procedures applicable to this section are specified in General Assembly resolution 36/240 A, paragraph 4.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/38/7 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. B, income sect. 3, para. 3.14.

4/ The terms of reference of the Garage Review Board are to advise the Secretary-General on matters pertaining to the allocation of garage space to all qualified users at Headquarters except those in possession of DPL and accredited FC licence plates.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6 and Corr.1), tables IS3.20 and IS3.22.

Second report

Conditions of service and compensation for officials
other than Secretariat officials

[Original: English]

[19 September 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials (A/C.5/38/27). The report had originally been submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session. By its resolution 38/234, section XVII, of 20 December 1983, the General Assembly decided

"to defer until its thirty-ninth session consideration of the recommendations of the Secretary-General [contained in A/C.5/38/27] with regard to which no action has been taken during the current session;".

Accordingly, the Advisory Committee has considered all of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General, with the exception of the recommendations in paragraphs 48, 49 and 86 to 106.

2. Paragraphs 48 and 49 of the Secretary-General's report, which deal with recognition, for pension purposes, of service performed prior to January 1983 by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), were considered directly by the Fifth Committee (without reference to the Advisory Committee) at its 67th meeting of the thirty-eighth session, held on 15 December 1983. Paragraphs 86 to 106 of the Secretary-General's report deal with post-retirement benefits for members of the International Court of Justice (ICJ). At the request of the Fifth Committee, the Advisory Committee submitted to the thirty-eighth session a report 1/ whose recommendations were approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/239 of 20 December 1983.

3. In the paragraphs below the Advisory Committee submits its observations and recommendations on the proposals made by the Secretary-General with regard to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC and the members of ICJ. As regards the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, the Secretary-General stated 2/ that it would seem that the intent of the Assembly had been to equate the levels of compensation of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee and the Chairman of ICSC. The General Assembly may therefore wish to consider those proposals of the Secretary-General which relate to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee in the light of decisions the Assembly would take on the Advisory Committee's recommendations for the Chairman of ICSC.

4. The Advisory Committee has been informed, with regard to paragraph 18 (a) of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/38/27), that in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/233, section VI, paragraph 3 of 20 December 1979, the Secretary-General is in the process of reviewing the scale of payments contained in

article 7 of the rules governing compensation to members of commissions, committees or similar bodies in the event of death, injury or illness attributable to service with the United Nations. 3/ The Committee was further informed that the Secretary-General was continuing to examine the feasibility of providing such members with the type of insurance coverage described in Assembly resolution 34/233, section VI, paragraph 4. With regard to paragraph 20 of the Secretary-General's report, the Committee was informed that this paragraph was intended to refer to the principle that a Chairman of the Advisory Committee, as a full-time official, would need to take up residence in New York.

5. The Advisory Committee was informed that because of increases in the level of post-adjustment (due to cost-of-living increases and to the correction of the post-adjustment index for New York decided upon by ICSC), the September 1983 figures given in the table following paragraph 30 of the Secretary-General's report for the annual compensation of senior Secretariat officials, would now be somewhat higher. 4/

6. The Advisory Committee recalls that the quinquennial reviews called for under General Assembly resolution 35/221 of 17 December 1980 on conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly, would normally next take place during the fortieth session of the Assembly. In view of the proposals of the Secretary-General which the Assembly, by virtue of its resolution 38/234, section XVII, is taking up at its thirty-ninth session, the General Assembly may wish to decide that the next regular review should take place at its forty-fourth session.

Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC

7. The Advisory Committee recommends raising the special allowance payable to the Chairman of ICSC from \$5,000 a year to \$8,000 a year as proposed in paragraph 33 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/38/27). The Committee notes that this allowance has not been increased since it was first established in 1975.

8. In paragraph 34 of the Secretary-General's report, the introduction of a special allowance of \$2,000 a year is suggested for the Vice-Chairman of ICSC. The Committee is not convinced of the need for such an allowance, which would establish a precedent, and accordingly does not recommend approval of this proposal.

9. In paragraph 36 of the Secretary-General's report, it is recommended that a distinction according to dependency status be introduced in compensation. The Advisory Committee believes that the definition and application of dependency criteria would introduce an unnecessary complication into the remuneration of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC and therefore recommends that they continue to be compensated without distinction as to dependency status.

10. The proposal in paragraph 43 of the Secretary-General's report, to apply installation grant provisions (which involve the payment of the daily subsistence allowance for a specific number of days) would be with the proviso "that the individual has not previously resided there while working in another capacity." The Advisory Committee takes this proviso to mean that individuals would receive the grant unless they were residing at the duty station at the time of their appointment. The Advisory Committee is in favour of the payment of an installation grant (the provisions of which would be the same as those now applicable to senior Secretariat officials) to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC. The Committee notes that according to the proposal the installation allowance would not be payable in the case of the current incumbents.

11. The provision of an education grant is discussed in paragraph 44 of the Secretary-General's report. The Secretary-General states that it is desirable to avoid a complicated arrangement which would apply to only a few officials and suggests that the officials be reimbursed for the actual costs of educating their children in respect of each child up to the award of the first recognized degree. According to the Secretary-General, the "amount of the reimbursement per child might be subject to a ceiling of \$4,500 per school year." The Committee understands that this would be in the form of reimbursement for identifiable expenses actually incurred. The Advisory Committee concurs with the suggestions of the Secretary-General with regard to payment of education grants to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC. The Secretary-General states that "it would also seem appropriate to provide for one related travel per year from the place of scholastic attendance outside the country of the duty station to the duty station." The Advisory Committee agrees with this recommendation.

12. In paragraph 45 of his report the Secretary-General suggests the payment of a relocation allowance upon completion of appointment. Such an allowance would be in addition to arrangements already in place for meeting the cost of travel to home countries and for the removal of household goods and personal effects. According to the Secretary-General, the allowance would be contingent upon relocation outside the country of the duty station and would be in the form of a lump-sum payment which would be calculated in accordance with the schedule in paragraph 45 of his report. The Advisory Committee, taking into account the entitlements which already exist upon completion of appointment as described in the same paragraph, is not convinced of the need to provide additional support. Accordingly, the Committee does not recommend approval of a relocation allowance.

13. The Advisory Committee recommends the approval of a death benefit scheme for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC along the lines of the proposal made in paragraph 46 of the Secretary-General's report.

Members of ICJ

14. In paragraph 77 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/38/27), it is stated that the General Assembly may wish to consider raising the special annual allowance paid to the President of the Court from its present level of \$12,200 to \$16,800; a corresponding increase would also be applied to the special allowance paid to the Vice-President when acting as President, which would be raised from \$76 a day to \$104 a day. The Advisory Committee was informed that the latter allowance would be paid up to a maximum of 100 days, or \$10,400 a year.

15. As explained in paragraph 77 of the report, the reason for the increase in the President's special allowance would be to restore it to the proportionate level at which it was (24 per cent of the annual base salary) until 1981. The Advisory Committee points out, however, that although the special allowances of the President and Vice-President had been increased by the same percentage and at the same time as the annual salaries of the members of the Court from 1950 until 1976, a new system of remuneration for the members of the Court consisting of an annual base salary and a cost-of-living supplement was introduced with effect from 1 January 1976. As stated in paragraph 58 of the Secretary-General's report, the allowances were not subject to automatic cost-of-living adjustment and "there ceased to be a direct relationship between the increases in the total emoluments of the judges and the allowances payable to the President and the Vice-President when acting as President."

16. In view of the introduction of an automatic cost-of-living adjustment for salaries, the Advisory Committee is of the opinion that the level of the special allowance should not be determined through the application of a fixed ratio to the annual base salary; rather it should be fixed at an amount which would not be subject to automatic change whenever the annual base salary is increased. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the special annual allowance payable to the President of the Court be set at \$15,000 as of 1 January 1985 with a corresponding adjustment to \$94 a day (up to a maximum of \$9,400 a year) of the special daily allowance paid to the Vice-President when acting as President.

17. The Advisory Committee supports the suggestion of the Secretary-General in paragraph 83 of his report (A/C.5/38/27) that the President and members of the Court who have taken up residence in The Hague be reimbursed up to a ceiling of \$4,500 for the actual cost of educating their children in respect of each child each school year up to the award of the first recognized degree. The Committee understands that the amount to be paid for education would be in the form of reimbursement for identifiable expenses actually incurred. The Secretary-General also suggests that provision be made for one related travel per year from the place of scholastic attendance when outside the Netherlands to The Hague. The Advisory Committee agrees with this recommendation.

18. In paragraph 83 of his report, the Secretary-General also suggests that "upon provision of evidence of relocation outside the Netherlands, the members of the Court who have taken up residence at The Hague might receive a lump-sum payment, the amount of which would be expressed in number of weeks of base salary and would vary according to their number of years of service at the Court." The Secretary-General, in the same paragraph, bases his suggestion on the fact that "upon the completion of their appointment with the Court, the judges who established their primary residence in The Hague will undoubtedly incur additional expenses upon their resettlement in a new location after an extended period of having their primary residence at The Hague."

19. Taking into account the likely length of service (since members of the Court are elected to terms of nine years), the Advisory Committee agrees in principle that those judges who have maintained a bona fide primary residence at The Hague for an extended period during service with the Court should be paid a lump-sum upon the completion of their appointment with the Court and their resettlement outside the Netherlands. The Committee believes that "extended period", as used in the preceding sentence, should be taken to mean at least five continuous years and that while the actual amount to be paid should vary according to the number of years served while maintaining continuous primary residence at The Hague, the schedule of payments should be simpler than that suggested by the Secretary-General in paragraph 83 of his report.

20. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that those judges who have maintained a bona fide primary residence at The Hague for at least five continuous years during service with the Court should receive a lump-sum equivalent to 18 weeks of annual net base salary upon completion of their appointment and resettlement outside the Netherlands, and that those judges who have completed nine continuous years or more of eligibility should receive instead the equivalent of 24 weeks of annual net base salary upon completion of service and relocation outside the Netherlands.

21. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of a death benefit scheme for the members of the Court along the lines of the proposal made in paragraph 84 of the Secretary-General's report.

22. Finally the Advisory Committee recommends that, in future, reports of the Secretary-General on conditions of service for the members of ICJ should be issued separately from his reports on conditions of service for the Chairman of the Advisory Committee and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/38/7/Add.1-23), document A/38/7/Add.23.

2/ A/C.5/33/41, para. 17.

3/ ST/SGB/103/Rev.1.

4/ As at 1 August 1984, the annual compensation of an assistant secretary-general (including representation allowance of \$3,000) is \$83,115 with dependant or \$75,978 without dependant, and for an Under-Secretary-General (including representation allowance of \$4,000), \$91,324 with dependant or \$83,266 without dependant.

Third report

Adequacy of the conference facilities of the Economic
Commission for Africa at Addis Ababa

[Original: English]

[28 September 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the adequacy of the conference facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) at Addis Ababa (A/C.5/38/82 and A/C.5/39/8). The latter document contains updated information in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/234, section XXIII, of 20 December 1983. In addition to the above two reports, the Committee had before it other relevant documentation. 1/
2. Because of its late submission in December 1983, the Advisory Committee had been unable to examine the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/38/82) at its autumn 1983 session and had therefore recommended that consideration of the report be deferred until the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly. During its spring and summer 1984 session, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General at Headquarters, with the Executive Secretary and his colleagues at ECA at Addis Ababa, and (also at Addis Ababa) with representatives of the architectural and engineering firm which had prepared the conceptual design on which the Secretary-General's reports are based.
3. As indicated in paragraphs 1 to 3 of document A/C.5/38/82, a firm of consulting architects/engineers was selected to undertake an architectural and engineering study for construction of new conference facilities and for the modification of existing buildings at ECA. The study, which was carried out between July and October 1983, is summarized in paragraphs 4 to 28 of the document.
4. In paragraph 6 of A/C.5/38/82, the Secretary-General states his understanding that the Government of Ethiopia would make available a further parcel of land of 42,400 square metres adjacent to the existing site. As stated in paragraph 4 of A/C.5/39/8, this has since been confirmed by the Government of Ethiopia. In addition, "the Government has confirmed that materials and furniture and equipment required for the construction of the conference facilities will be exempt from duty or sales taxes." The Advisory Committee understands this to mean that neither duty nor sales tax will be levied on the material required for the project.
5. The Advisory Committee notes, as indicated in paragraph 10 of A/C.5/38/82, that the overall requirements of the facilities have been divided into three categories comprising "required facilities (conference rooms, conference support facilities and parking); desirable facilities (delegates' meeting rooms, medical emergency facilities, communications facilities and new dining facilities); and future facilities (office building and additional parking)." Some of the facilities incorporated into the design as desirable elements were not considered by the General Assembly in its discussion at the thirty-seventh session; however, the consultants had concluded that additional facilities would be required to meet the needs of ECA (A/C.5/38/82, para. 9).

6. As stated in paragraph 12 of A/C.5/38/82, pursuant to the Advisory Committee's recommendation in its report, 2/ plans and cost estimates for three specific options were drawn up by the architects, namely, option 1 - one large conference room, two medium-sized conference rooms and four small rooms (1-2-4), option 2 - one large, three medium-sized and six small rooms (1-3-6) and option 3 - one large, two medium-sized and six small rooms (1-2-6). In each option, one medium-sized conference room would be obtained from the modification of the existing plenary hall (Africa Hall). Although the Secretary-General had originally indicated that two small conference rooms might result from the modification of the existing plenary hall, 3/ the consultants concluded that this would not be viable due to the physical constraints of the building in which Africa Hall is presently located.

7. The seating to be provided in the large, medium-sized and small conference rooms is described in paragraph 24 of A/C.5/38/82. The large conference room would provide for 200 delegates at the table and 200 advisers behind; the medium-sized rooms would accommodate 100 delegates at the table and 100 advisers behind; and the small rooms would be large enough for 50 delegates at the table and 50 advisers behind. However, in line with the observations of the Joint Inspection Unit on the need to introduce flexibility into the design of new buildings, the consultants were asked to allow for sufficient floor space to permit a 50 per cent expansion of seating in the large conference room, the modified plenary hall and the small conference rooms, and a 100 per cent expansion in the new medium-sized conference room. The Secretary-General states in paragraph 25 of the same document, that such expansion would make possible the holding of a major United Nations conference in Addis Ababa.

8. Section II (paras. 29-47) of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/38/82), deals with the engineering design features of the proposed project, including a description of the proposed new staff cafeteria (to accommodate 400 people), the delegates' dining room (to accommodate 300 people) and the delegates' lounge (also for 300 people). The Secretary-General also discusses the two types of contract which could be utilized to develop the design and to construct the proposed conference centre, namely the turn-key type of contract or the more conventional contract whereby a facility is designed by an architect or engineer and then constructed by a contractor. Although the consultants recommended the use of the turn-key contract, the Secretary-General has recommended the architect/design-contractor construct contract, incorporating a guaranteed maximum cost, the advantages of which are described in paragraph 44 of the Secretary-General's report (ibid.).

9. Under the arrangement recommended by the Secretary-General, approximately five years would be required for the design and construction. An additional year-and-a-half would be required for modification of the existing plenary hall, in view of the impracticality of beginning work on that building prior to the completion of the new conference facilities.

10. In section III (paras. 48-54) of the report (A/C.5/38/82), the Secretary-General discusses the conference-servicing requirements of ECA. According to the Secretary-General, a number of meetings organized by ECA are currently held outside Addis Ababa; however, with the completion of the proposed conference facilities, it would be possible to hold the majority of meetings in Addis Ababa. At the same time, this "would give rise to an increased number of simultaneous meetings" (ibid., para. 53). In the light of this, the Secretary-General concludes in paragraph 54 that in the medium- and long-term view the needs of ECA would be adequately met by pursuing the 1-2-4 option, on the

understanding that the possibility of seating expansion would be incorporated into the design of all the conference rooms.

11. Paragraph 5 of A/C.5/39/8, which supersedes paragraph 58 of A/C.5/38/82, provides a breakdown of the cost of the project, which has been recosted at 1984 prices at \$66,220,000. As stated in paragraph 6 of A/C.5/39/8, the consultants' previous assumption (see A/C.5/38/82, para. 59) that construction costs would increase by approximately 7.5 per cent per year on a compounded basis "appears still valid". Consequently, given a seven year construction period, the total cost of the project would increase to approximately \$89,360,000, as reflected in the table following paragraph 6 of A/C.5/39/8. However, as previously indicated in paragraph 59 of A/C.5/38/82, because the United Nations has not yet acquired the expertise of a quantity surveyor, more detailed information regarding the expected cost increases is not yet available.

12. The funds for the project, which would be appropriated according to the schedule outlined in paragraph 7 of A/C.5/39/8, would be placed in a separate construction account and unexpended balances would be carried forward into succeeding bienniums until the project is completed. Annual progress reports would be submitted to the General Assembly.

13. Section V (paras. 61-64) of A/C.5/38/82 deals with administrative arrangements. In paragraph 61, the Secretary-General states that the "primary administrative responsibility for the supervision of the project would rest with the Executive Secretary of ECA, whose staff would undertake the day-to-day management and development of the project during the construction phase". In this connection, the Secretary-General proposes to set up a small planning unit at ECA, comprising two posts, one for a technical officer at the P-5 level and one for a finance officer at the P-3 level. The incumbents of these temporary posts would work closely with the supervising engineer on a regular and full-time basis. The unit would also be augmented by two temporary local-level posts. The cost of the unit is given in paragraph 8 of A/C.5/39/8 at \$95,100 for the biennium 1984-1985.

14. It would also be necessary, as indicated in paragraph 63 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/38/82), "for the United Nations to retain an independent quantity surveyor and/or project management consultants to assist in the preparation of a detailed programme for such an effort and to assist in the analysis of proposals and cost estimates submitted." The Advisory Committee notes that "the quantity surveyor and/or project management consultants would be selected jointly by ECA and Headquarters and during the construction phase would have offices at Addis Ababa to assist ECA staff in the day-to-day management of the project and inspection of construction" (*ibid.*, para. 64). At the same time, however, the Secretary-General points out that "during the early phases, various policy decisions on the construction programme and contracting arrangements would require careful study at Headquarters. Headquarters would also monitor the design work to ensure that it was on schedule and within budgetary provisions. Project co-ordination activities between the United Nations and the consultants during the design phase would centre in New York, where use can be made of the substantial back-up available" (*ibid.*).

15. In paragraph 65 (sect. VI) of his report (A/C.5/38/82), the Secretary-General estimates the number of additional support staff which would be required upon the completion of the new conference facilities. At the same time, however, he proposes that "the Administrative Management Service undertake a review of the overall requirements of ECA for conference and support services in connection with the preparation of the 1986-1987 programme budget estimates" (*ibid.*, para. 66).

Observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee

16. The Advisory Committee is convinced of the need for new conference and related facilities at ECA and is in basic agreement with the Secretary-General's proposal as contained in his reports, subject to the following observations and recommendations.
17. As stated in paragraph 7 above, the design for the conference facilities incorporates an expansion factor of 50 per cent for the large conference room, the modified plenary hall and the small conference rooms and 100 per cent for the new medium-sized conference room. While the Advisory Committee agrees that an architectural design should allow for as much economical expansion as possible during the life of the building, it also is of the opinion that each project should be studied as an independent entity on the basis of the specific purpose and requirements of the building, and that all relevant data should be taken into consideration in determining the final design.
18. The Advisory Committee considered information provided by ECA, particularly statistical information on the frequency and scale of ECA conferences and meetings. Representatives of the Secretary-General provided the Advisory Committee with information on many technical aspects of the construction proposals. The Advisory Committee also discussed the requirements for the holding of a major United Nations conference, a possibility referred to in paragraph 25 of A/C.5/38/82.
19. Taking into account all the information presented to it, the Advisory Committee concurs with the proposal to include the above-mentioned expansion factor in the design of the large and medium-sized conference rooms. However, the Committee is not convinced of the need to incorporate the proposed expansion into the design of the small conference rooms. In response to inquiries, the Committee was informed that elimination of the proposed expansion in the small conference rooms would reduce the total estimate by \$1,729,000 (at 1984 rates).
20. With respect to the proposed modification of Africa Hall, the Secretary-General states that, for practical reasons, no work would begin prior to the completion of the new conference facilities, i.e. some five years after approval of the project by the General Assembly. However, the Advisory Committee believes that the actual decision concerning the extent of the modification of Africa Hall should be postponed pending completion of the new facilities. At that time, further consultation among all concerned should take place, during which, inter alia, careful consideration should be given to updated statistics on the level of meetings and conferences of ECA, with a view to ascertaining whether that level warranted modification of the Hall in the manner currently proposed by the Secretary-General, at an estimated cost of \$8,530,000 (at 1984 rates).
21. The Advisory Committee's recommendations in the two preceding paragraphs would reduce the total cost of the project, at 1984 rates, by \$10,259,000 to \$55,961,000. With the application of inflation at an annual rate of 7.5 per cent, the overall cost, excluding the cost of the planning unit at ECA, would be \$73,501,000 as follows:

A. Costs at 1984 prices

Construction costs of new buildings

Conference facility	33 978 000
Site work	5 380 000
Dining facility	3 020 000

Furnishings 4 190 000

Architectural and engineering study,
construction management/administration
(excluding headquarters planning unit) 6 270 000

Contingency 3 123 000

Total at 1984 prices 55 961 000

B. Anticipated inflation 17 540 000

Total 73 501 000

22. Based on the foregoing recommendations, the following pattern of appropriations would be required:

United States dollars

1984-1985	3 120 000
1986-1987	26 372 000
1988-1989	<u>44 009 000</u>
Total	<u>73 501 000</u>

23. The Advisory Committee notes that the estimated total cost is based on preliminary plans which will have to be developed in greater detail if the General Assembly approves the project. However, the Committee points out that the type of contract recommended by the Secretary-General in paragraph 45 of his report (A/C.5/38/82) and discussed in paragraph 8 above, incorporates a guaranteed maximum cost; it is therefore the view of the Advisory Committee that cost overruns should not occur once the contract has been signed. The Advisory Committee agrees with the recommendation of the Secretary-General on the type of contract to be utilized.

24. The Advisory Committee concurs with the proposed creation of the ECA planning unit described in paragraph 13 above. The planning unit would work closely with the quantity surveyor and/or project management consultants who, as indicated in paragraph 14 above, would have offices at Addis Ababa during the construction phase. The Advisory Committee agrees that such on-site co-ordination is essential for the proper day-to-day management of the project. In this connection, the Committee trusts that utmost care will be taken in staffing the planning unit and in retaining the best qualified quantity surveyor and/or project management consultants.

25. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, the descriptions in section V of A/C.5/38/82, summarized in paragraphs 13 and 14 above, require a clearer definition of the respective responsibilities of ECA and Headquarters in developing, managing and supervising the project if it is to be implemented efficiently and with due regard to the optimum use of the resources to be approved by the General Assembly for the project. In this connection, the Committee recalls and reiterates its previous position that "there is a need for a clear delineation of responsibilities and for supervision, control and co-ordination of construction projects. For example, with regard to construction away from Headquarters, while there is certainly a need for considerable local input, there should be a central point of overall direction and control and this should be the Under-Secretary-General for Administration, Finance and Management and the Assistant Secretary-General, Office of General Services. It is only in this way that reliable standards can be formulated and applied and that proposed deviations from standards to meet local exigencies can be evaluated in the context of priorities and requirements for the United Nations as a whole. Such a system would also ensure a clear line of accountability and would thus help to ensure that directives of the General Assembly and other legislative organs should be strictly and promptly applied." 4/

26. The Advisory Committee is of the opinion that communication and co-ordination between ECA and Headquarters need to be improved, with a view to ensuring that standards of maintenance equivalent to those at other United Nations centres are developed and maintained at ECA. In this connection, the Secretary-General may wish to consider seconding a staff member experienced in maintenance and procurement to ECA with a view to assisting the Commission's staff in developing a long-range maintenance programme.

27. In the light of the above, the Advisory Committee attaches particular importance to the statement in paragraph 64 of A/C.5/38/82 that the Secretary-General intends to submit periodic reports to the Committee to enable it to monitor developments regarding the project.

28. The Advisory Committee notes that over and above the total cost of the project, the exact amount of which will become known once the bids have been evaluated and a contractor selected, additional costs will arise in respect of the physical and human resources required to operate and maintain the facilities. In paragraphs 65 and 66 of A/C.5/38/82, the Secretary-General estimates the additional number of staff which would be required but adds that "these observations have been included simply for information purposes," and proposes that the Administrative Management Service "undertake a review of the overall requirements of ECA for conference and support services." The Committee also notes that no attempt has been made to quantify the additional funds which would be required for the physical maintenance of the new facilities.

29. In addition, although the large and medium-sized conference rooms would be built with the expansion factor described in paragraph 7 above, at this stage the rooms would simply have additional space for future use. Should the General Assembly subsequently decide to hold a major conference at the headquarters of the Commission, or should the needs of ECA increase substantially, it would be necessary to equip the rooms with additional furniture and equipment, the financial implications of which are not contained in the Secretary-General's report.

Conclusion

30. Subject to its observations in paragraphs 16 to 29 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly (a) accept the generous offer by the Government of Ethiopia of approximately 42,400 square metres of land immediately adjacent to the existing site of ECA, taking due account of the assurance by that Government that all goods will be exempt from duty and sales taxes; (b) approve, in principle, the project at an estimated cost of \$73,501,000, excluding the cost of the planning unit at ECA; (c) approve an appropriation of \$3,120,000 for the biennium 1984-1985 under section 32 (Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance of premises) in order to formulate detailed designs, specifying that the appropriated funds be placed in a construction account and any unexpended balance carried forward until the completion of the project; (d) approve an appropriation for the biennium 1984-1985 of \$95,100 under section 13 (Economic Commission for Africa) and \$16,300 under section 31 (Staff assessment) to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment), in respect of the proposed planning unit; and (e) request annual progress reports on the project from the Secretary-General.

Notes

1/ A/36/297 and Add.1; A/36/643; Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/37/7 and Add.1-24), document A/37/7/Add.18; A/C.5/37/67; and A/AC.1/2/100.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/37/7 and Add.1-24), document A/37/7/Add.18.

3/ See A/C.5/37/67, table 1, footnote b.

4/ See A/36/643, para. 8.

Fourth report

Financial arrangements between the United Nations and the
Committee for the Promotion of Aid to Co-operatives

[Original: English]

[9 October 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/3), which reviews financial arrangements between the United Nations and the Committee for the Promotion of Aid to Co-operatives (COPAC). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General.
2. The report of the Secretary-General has been submitted in accordance with a decision of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly at the thirty-eighth session, 1/ based on a recommendation of the Advisory Committee. 2/ Pending the outcome of the review, an amount of \$27,400, being the United Nations contribution to COPAC for 1984 only, was appropriated under section 6 (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. 3/
3. The origins, organization, functions and activities of COPAC are described in paragraphs 4 to 11 and in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General. Paragraphs 12 to 17 and annex II contain information concerning the financial arrangements between the United Nations and COPAC. For the reasons stated in paragraphs 18 to 31, the Secretary-General recommends in paragraph 32 that "the United Nations should remain a member of COPAC, and that provision should be made for its financial contribution to COPAC for 1985. The present level of the United Nations contribution, which is approximately 15 per cent of the regular budget of COPAC, is reasonable and could be maintained, subject to a periodic review in the context of the biennial programme budget proposals and to adjustments for inflation and currency-exchange fluctuations." The report of the Secretary-General contains no request for an additional appropriation in 1985.
4. The Advisory Committee sought additional information on COPAC's budget for 1984 and 1985, on the United Nations contributions for those years and on the administrative arrangements for the COPAC secretariat in Rome. At the time the Committee was examining the Secretary-General's report, it was informed that no estimates of COPAC's budget for 1985 were available. The Committee was further informed that for 1984 the regular expenditure budget of COPAC was \$160,305, comprising \$108,940 for salaries and common staff costs (1 P-5 and 1 G-4); \$7,500 for temporary assistance; \$20,000 for official travel; \$16,365 for contractual services and \$7,500 for general operating expenses. The United Nations share of this budget was \$24,400 or 15.2 per cent. As regards the administrative arrangements for the COPAC secretariat, the Committee was informed that the Executive Secretary was appointed by the COPAC membership. Authority for appointing other staff was delegated to the Executive Secretary. All appointments were on a one-year fixed-term basis, subject to renewal. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations provided office accommodation as well as financial management services to the COPAC secretariat.

5. According to the procedures outlined in paragraph 15 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/3), the financial contributions of the specialized agencies which are members of COPAC are fixed by consultations among the agencies concerned, subject to endorsement by their respective competent authorities. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that no supporting information was included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 in respect of the United Nations participation in COPAC. 4/ In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, when the United Nations is a party to inter-agency arrangements which involve financial commitments, the Secretary-General should make specific reference to these arrangements in his budget submissions to the General Assembly, fully supported by relevant administrative and budgetary information. The Advisory Committee trusts that this practice will be followed in future budget submissions.

6. The Advisory Committee concurs with the recommendation that the United Nations should remain a member of COPAC, and, subject to its observations in paragraph 5 above, has no objection to the financial arrangements recommended by the Secretary-General in paragraph 32 of his report. As regards the United Nations contribution to the COPAC budget for 1985, the Advisory Committee recommends that the amount, when known, should be absorbed from within existing resources appropriated under section 6 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Fifth Committee, 43rd meeting, para. 32; and *ibid.*, Thirty-eighth Session, Annexes, agenda item 109, document A/38/760, paras. 25-27.

2/ *Ibid.*, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/38/7 and Corr.1), para. 6.18.

3/ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 6 (A/38/6 and Corr.1), vol. I, para. 6.57.

4/ *Ibid.*

Fifth report

Administrative and financial implications of the recommendations and decisions contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission; revised estimates under section 28L.1 (International Civil Service Commission) and income section 2 (General income)

(Agenda item 117)*

[Original: English]

[5 November 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/26) on the administrative and financial implications of the recommendations and decisions contained in the tenth annual report of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). ¹/ The Committee has also considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/22) on revised estimates under section 28L.1 (International Civil Service Commission), and income section 2, (General income) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

Administrative and financial implications of ICSC decisions and recommendations

2. The financial implications of the Commission's decisions and recommendations for 1984-1985 for both the United Nations regular budget and extrabudgetary funds are estimated at \$17,632,300 as shown in the following table:

* United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission.

3. The Secretary-General estimates that the savings resulting from the Commission's recommendations for a revised scale of pensionable remuneration for the Professional and higher categories will, if any, be minimal in 1985. The Advisory Committee notes that projected savings for the common system of about \$7.7 million per year for future bienniums, resulting from the factors described in paragraph 3 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/26), are in respect of the organizations' contributions to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (which are expressed as a percentage of pensionable remuneration), and take into account the recommendation of the Commission that the existing scale of pensionable remuneration be increased by 5.4 per cent as of 1 October 1984.

4. The Advisory Committee notes that the estimated cost to the United Nations in 1985 for the consolidation of post adjustment into net base salary will be a one-time cost. As indicated in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's statement, it is not expected that any of the additional annual costs mentioned by the Commission would arise in so far as the United Nations regular budget is concerned.

5. Decisions of the Commission with regard to post adjustment questions are described in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Secretary-General's statement. Annex I to the statement provides a breakdown of the financial implications of the Commission's decisions by location as well as an indication of the estimated cost for 1986. The Advisory Committee was informed that the estimates for New York were based on the fact that the decision with respect to the post adjustment index resulted in a one-class increase in the level of New York adjustment on 1 August 1984, and would be the major component, together with movements in CPI, in a likely further one-class increase on 1 December 1984. The Committee understands that the projected savings at Geneva and Vienna relate mainly to the Commission's decision to discontinue, with effect from 1 August 1984, the additional "multiplier" points (four points at Geneva, one point at Vienna) originally added in 1982 to compensate for the weakness of the United States dollar in relation to local currencies.

6. The Advisory Committee notes that the financial implications of implementing the new salary scales recommended by the Commission for the General Service and related categories in New York are calculated as the costs in excess of those which would have arisen had there been no survey, in which case the existing interim adjustment procedure would have continued to apply. The estimate of additional costs takes into account the decision of the Secretary-General to implement the new salary scales with effect from 1 February 1984; they cover the increases in net salary, contributions to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the language allowance and the children's allowance. The estimate also includes the cost of implementation of the results of the ongoing classification exercise as at 1 January 1985. The financial implications for the United Nations regular budget, in terms of costs in excess of the provisions already included in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, are indicated in paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's statement as being \$4,298,000 for 1984 and for 1985 \$4,887,000 (of which \$1,279,000 relates to the implementation of the classification exercise).

7. The recommendations of the Commission with regard to long-service steps are described in paragraph 11 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/26). The

related cost for the United Nations regular budget is estimated at \$120,000 for 1985. The Commission has also decided to establish two levels for the financial incentives payable at certain locations based on the classification of duty stations according to conditions of life and work (*ibid.*, para. 12). According to the Secretary-General, considering the duty stations at which such payments are made, this measure has no financial implications for the United Nations regular budget at this time. The Advisory Committee was informed that even for extrabudgetary posts the cost would be minimal (see table in para. 2 above).

8. The Secretary-General indicates in paragraph 14 of his statement that no additional appropriations are being requested at this time, but that, following past practice, the additional costs for the regular budget of the decisions and recommendations of the Commission will be dealt with in the context of the programme budget performance reports for the biennium 1984-1985. 2/ The Advisory Committee concurs with this approach.

Revised estimates for ICSC

9. The revised estimates submitted by the Secretary-General in his report (A/C.5/39/22) relate to an ongoing three-phase project to computerize the ICSC data base. As indicated in paragraph 4 of the report, provisions have already been made for ICSC within the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, for the first phase of the project which covers the computerization of data on the daily subsistence allowance.

10. It is stated in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's report that the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions has decided that an amount of \$51,500 should be added to the Commission's budget for 1984-1985 for the remaining two phases (post adjustment and rental subsidy, and classification of duty stations). The amount includes \$43,500 for a total of 100 consultant work-days and \$8,000 for the purchase of software items.

11. It was explained to the Advisory Committee that the amount requested for consultants reflected the high degree of expertise required for the work envisaged.

12. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's report that the computerization work is expected to lead to savings under the future budgets of the Commission and the organizations of the system. The Committee was informed, however, that it was not possible at the current time to quantify the precise amount of such savings.

13. The Advisory Committee does not object to the Secretary-General's proposal and the consequent additional appropriation of \$51,500 under section 28L.1, in respect of ICSC for 1984-1985. An increase of \$30,800 will also arise under income section 2 (General income), to reflect the reimbursement by the specialized agencies of their share (59.8 per cent) of the additional requirements for the Commission for the biennium 1984-1985.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/39/30 and Corr.1 and 2).

2/ The first report is contained in document A/C.5/39/88.

Sixth report

Revised estimates under section 28C (Administration and Management: Office of Personnel Services) and under section 28J (Administration and Management: Staff Training activities (Headquarters, Geneva and the regional commissions)): a system of career development for all categories of staff

(Agenda item 116 (c))*

[Original: English]

[12 November 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/11) on revised estimates under section 28C (Administration and Management: Office of Personnel Services) and under section 28J (Administration and Management: Staff Training activities (Headquarters, Geneva and the regional commissions)) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.
2. The revised estimates, which would involve an additional \$223,800 under section 28C and an additional \$79,000 under section 28J, relate to the proposals of the Secretary-General for a system of career development for all categories of staff.
3. Sections I and II of the Secretary-General's report contain a review of the present situation with regard to career development, an outline of the objectives and components of a career development system and a report on a number of operational decisions which have been reached for designing and implementing such a system. Section III of the report contains proposals for the setting up and implementation of a career development system and section IV contains a review of work already undertaken and conclusions reached.
4. The Advisory Committee notes the statement in paragraph 2 of the report (A/C.5/39/11) that the efforts of the Secretary-General to establish a comprehensive career development system for the Secretariat are based on General Assembly resolutions 37/235 and 38/231 of 21 December 1982 and 20 December 1983 and on the work of the International Civil Service Commission and the Joint Inspection Unit. The Advisory Committee, in its consideration of the Secretary-General's report, has not dealt with the policy aspects of this personnel matter, but has concentrated on the proposed resource requirements for the setting up and implementation of a career development system, as contained in section III of the report (ibid., paras. 12-19).
5. The Committee notes from paragraphs 13 and 14 of the report of the Secretary-General that the Career Development and Placement Unit in the Office of Personnel Services consists of 1 D-1, (on loan from the Office of the Assistant

* Personnel questions: other personnel questions.

Secretary-General) 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 2 General Service staff. The Committee has no objection to the proposal in paragraph 14 of the report to redeploy the D-1 post on a permanent basis to the Career Development and Placement Unit.

6. The work programme for the design and implementation of a career development system is described in paragraph 15 of the Secretary-General's report, (A/C.5/39/11) where the following staff resources under section 28C are requested:

General temporary assistance

- P-4: Six work-months to define career paths (ibid., para. 15 (a))
- P-2: Six work-months to standardize post qualification requirements (ibid., para. 15 (b))

Established posts

- 1 P-4: To develop a rotation and mobility scheme (ibid., para. 15 (e))
- 1 P-3: To review and co-ordinate the existing data base of the Office of Personnel Services (ibid., para. 15 (d))
- 1 G-3/4: To update the staffing table data base and the personnel data base (ibid., paras. 15 (a) and (d))
- 1 G-3/4: To assist in the development of a rotation and mobility scheme (ibid., para. 15 (e))

7. In addition, general temporary assistance is requested in paragraph 15 (f) of the report for the Training and Examination Service under section 28J, to provide 12 work-months at the P-4 level and 9 work-months at the General Service level for the development of a comprehensive training programme for each of the occupational groups of the Secretariat.

8. In the opinion of the Committee, the requests for staff resources, particularly those for established posts, are difficult to evaluate in the absence of a clear indication of what impact the proposals for a career development system will have on the overall work programme of the Office of Personnel Services. The Committee believes that the required analysis and evaluation could best be made in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the request for staff resources, made in paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's report, be met through general temporary assistance in an amount of \$140,800 under section 28C and \$79,000 under section 28J for 1985 only, pending a full-scale review of resource requirements in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987.

9. Requirements for computer and related equipment are described in paragraphs 17 and 18 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/11). As shown in the table in paragraph 18, an amount of \$31,600 would be required for rental and maintenance of equipment, and an amount of \$37,400 is estimated for purchase and installation of

equipment. The Advisory Committee, while concurring with these requests, notes that estimates for installation are meant to cover a variety of possible configurations of the equipment and that actual costs might be lower.

10. The Committee has no objection to the request of \$14,000 for staff travel as described in paragraph 19 of the Secretary-General's report.

11. Consequently, should the General Assembly approve the proposals of the Secretary-General for a career development system as outlined in his report, the Advisory Committee recommends an additional appropriation of \$223,800 under section 28C and \$79,000 under section 28J of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. In addition, an amount of \$40,200 will be required under section 31 (Staff assessment) to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Seventh report

Revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1984

[Original: English]

[15 November 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/25), in which he submits revised estimates attributable to resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1984. The additional resources requested by the Secretary-General for 1984-1985, other than for conference-servicing, amount to \$963,300 gross or \$895,600 net of staff assessment (\$517,000 for 1984 and \$378,600 for 1985).
2. The related additional conference-servicing costs are estimated at \$1,285,300 (\$873,500 for 1984 and \$411,800 for 1985) on a full cost basis. As noted by the Secretary-General in paragraph 4 of his report, the requirements for 1984 were not included in the current appropriation; consequently, any additional appropriation in respect of 1984 will be requested under section 29 in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/88). Conference-servicing requirements in respect of 1985 will be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the thirty-ninth session (see A/C.5/39/98).
3. The Advisory Committee notes that in accordance with past practice, the Secretary-General has not sought additional resources for items involving estimated expenditures of \$10,000 or less, it being his intention to absorb these costs within the resources provided under the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. Estimated expenditures under this category total \$48,000 and are described in paragraphs 23.2, 23.12, 23.16, 23.21, 23.27, 23.33, 23.36, 23.41, 23.60, 23.65, 23.70, 23.72 and 23.93 of annex I to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/25).
4. The Secretary-General has also absorbed certain other costs, as indicated in paragraph 3 of his report. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that although reference is made in annex I to his report to requirements under section 28 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, no additional resources are being requested under this section. In addition, although two resolutions relate to section 24 of the programme budget, no additional funds are being sought since the related activities will be financed under advisory services in the field of human rights under that section.
5. The following table provides a summary of the revised estimates being requested for 1984-1985 by section (excluding conference-servicing costs):

<u>Section</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>United States dollars</u>			
4 Policy-making organs (economic and social activities) .	-	128 200	128 200
23 Human rights	517 000	200 600	717 600
27 Public information	-	49 800	49 800
Total	<u>517 000</u> a/	<u>378 600</u> a/	<u>895 600</u> a/

a/ Net of staff assessment.

Section 4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)

Resolution 1984/45. Continuation of preparations for the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

6. Paragraphs 4.1 to 4.4 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/25) summarize resolution 1984/45 of the Economic and Social Council, the financial implications of which are estimated at \$128,200 for 1985 under section 4 and \$49,800 for 1985 under section 27 (see paras. 19-21 below). The resources requested under section 4 include provision for 12 work-months of general temporary assistance in 1985 at the G-4 level. In response to inquiries, the Advisory Committee was informed that although the Congress would be held during August/September 1985, 12 months of general service support would be required in view of the follow-up activities during the last quarter of the year.

7. Despite this explanation, the Advisory Committee remains unconvinced of the need to provide for the entire 12 months, particularly in view of the fact that General Assembly resolution 35/10 C of 3 November 1980 stipulates that secretariats for special conferences should, to the extent possible, be provided by the existing Secretariat machinery. It therefore recommends that nine months of general temporary assistance be approved with a consequential reduction of \$4,700, in the Secretary-General's estimate and that any additional requirements be met from within existing resources of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs.

8. As outlined in paragraph 4.5 (a) of the Secretary-General's report, an additional amount of \$6,900 is also requested to cover the additional subsistence allowance for staff servicing the Congress. In this connection, representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Advisory Committee that the programme budget provides for the subsistence allowance of the 35 staff members servicing the Congress (30 from New York and 1 from each regional commission) for the duration of the Congress; the amount now being requested would cover subsistence allowance for two additional days of pre-Congress consultations to be convened immediately prior to the Congress. In the opinion of the Committee, these additional costs should be absorbed from within existing resources.

Section 23. Human rights

9. Under section 23, the Secretary-General submits in his report (A/C.5/39/25) the financial implications of 12 resolutions and 17 decisions of the Economic and Social Council. For a number of these, no additional resources are requested since the estimated expenditures amount to \$10,000 or less; in other instances, only conference-servicing requirements are involved. The total additional non-conference-servicing resources being requested are estimated at \$717,600 and relate to the 13 resolutions and decisions listed below as follows:

Revised estimates under section 23

	1984	1985	Total
		<u>United States dollars</u>	
Resolution 1984/26	-	41 000	41 000
" 1984/34	38 900	-	38 900
" 1984/35	50 400	-	50 400
" 1984/37	16 000	25 200	41 200
" 1984/39	-	36 900	36 900
Decision 1984/129	22 900	-	22 900
" 1984/131	22 900	-	22 900
" 1984/135	195 800	64 200	260 000
" 1984/136	34 900	-	34 900
" 1984/137	34 000	-	34 000
" 1984/138	21 500	-	21 500
" 1984/140	67 200	33 300	100 500
" 1984/143	12 500	-	12 500
Total	<u>517 000</u>	<u>200 600</u>	<u>717 600</u>

10. As is evident from the table in paragraph 5 above, the Secretary-General's request of \$517,000 for 1984 relates in its entirety to section 23. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 2 of his report (A/C.5/39/25), with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 38/237 of 20 December 1983 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985, the Secretary-General has entered into commitments totalling \$517,000 under section 23 in respect of resolutions and decisions requiring urgent action in 1984. Accordingly, the Committee's observations and recommendations in paragraphs 11 to 17 below are confined to the estimate of \$200,600 for 1985, relating to Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/26, 1984/37, 1984/39, and decisions 1984/135 and 1984/140.

Resolution 1984/26. Human rights violations and disabled persons

11. As described in paragraph 23.7 of annex I to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/25) the Secretary-General's request for \$41,000 in 1985 comprises \$5,000 for the travel and subsistence of the Special Rapporteur and \$36,000 for six work-months of a consultant. The Advisory Committee concurs with the Secretary-General's estimate.

Resolution 1984/37. Situation of human rights in Afghanistan

12. Paragraph 23.28 of annex I to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/25) summarizes resolution 1984/37 of the Economic and Social Council, the financial implications of which are estimated at \$30,300 for 1984 and \$25,200 for 1985. As indicated in paragraph 23.30 of annex I to the report, commitments in the amount of \$16,000 have been authorized; however, in response to inquiries, the Advisory Committee was informed that as at 30 September 1984 less than \$1,000 had actually been expended. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommends that no funds for 1985 be appropriated at this time. In the event that the existing provision should prove insufficient, the Secretary-General should reflect additional requirements in the context of the final programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985.

Resolution 1984/39. Implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief.

13. As stated in paragraph 23.36 of annex I to his report (A/C.5/39/25), the Secretary-General's request of \$36,900 in 1985 comprises \$8,600 for the travel of representatives and \$28,300 for temporary assistance (four work-months at the P-3 level and three work-months at the General Service level). The Advisory Committee has no objection to the Secretary-General's request.

Decision 1984/135. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

14. The Secretary-General's request for \$260,000 under this heading is described in paragraphs 23.49 to 23.55 of annex I to his report (A/C.5/39/25). As noted in paragraph 23.53, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, the Secretary-General has been authorized to enter into commitments totalling \$195,800 for 1984; he is now requesting the balance of \$64,200 for activities to be undertaken in 1985.

15. In response to inquiries, the Committee was informed that as at 30 September 1984 less than one-third of the \$195,800 had been expended. However, representatives of the Secretary-General emphasized that the total of \$61,800 for 1984, approved under this heading by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, had been over-expended by some \$23,000; consequently expenditures under this heading in 1984 actually amounted to slightly more than one half of the available resources.

16. The above notwithstanding, the Advisory Committee notes that the Secretary-General has committed less than the authorized amount for 1984. Accordingly it recommends that the Secretary-General's estimate of \$64,200 for 1985 be reduced by \$34,200 to \$30,000.

Decision 1984/140. Question of human rights in Chile

17. The request under this heading totals \$100,500, comprising \$67,200 in 1984 for which the Secretary-General has received commitment authority, and \$33,300 in 1985.

18. The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session had approved an amount of \$30,000 under this heading for 1984; therefore available resources in 1984 totalled \$97,200. Out of that amount, the Committee was informed that approximately \$60,000 had been spent as at 30 September 1984. In view of the likely savings to be realized in 1984, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Secretary-General's estimate for 1985 be reduced by \$8,300 to \$25,000.

Section 27. Public Information

Resolution 1984/45. Continuation of preparations for the Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

19. As stated in paragraph 6 above, financial implications totalling \$49,800 in 1985 under section 27 arise in respect of Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/45. Details of the request, which includes provision for general temporary assistance (\$17,300) and the translation and distribution of background notes and fact sheets (\$20,000), are provided in paragraph 4.5 (d) of annex I to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/25).

20. Although the Committee sought information in respect of the need to provide for the above-mentioned external translation and distribution, it remains unconvinced that the Department of Conference Services cannot undertake at least a portion of the work involved. Accordingly, it recommends that the Secretary-General's estimate of \$20,000 in respect of the background notes and fact sheets be reduced by \$5,000 to \$15,000.

21. The provision of \$17,300 for general temporary assistance would provide for eight work-months at the G-4 level. In line with its observations in paragraph 7 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Secretary-General absorb this cost.

Recapitulation

22. In paragraphs 7, 8, 12, 16, 18, 20, and 21 above, the Advisory Committee has recommended reductions totalling \$101,600 to the Secretary-General's request of \$378,600 for 1985. No reductions have been recommended in respect of his estimate for 1984 since, as mentioned in paragraph 10 above, this amount corresponds to the commitment authority in which the Advisory Committee has concurred. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that the following additional amounts attributable to resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1984 should be approved for 1984-1985:

<u>Section</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>Total</u>
		<u>United States dollars</u>	
4	-	116 600	116 600
23	517 000	132 900	649 900
27	-	<u>27 500</u>	<u>27 500</u>
Total	<u>517 000 a/</u>	<u>277 000 a/</u>	<u>794 000 a/</u>

a/ Net of staff assessment.

23. In addition, an amount of \$50,600 for staff assessment is required under section 31 (Staff assessment) to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Eighth report

Expansion of the conference facilities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at Bangkok

[Original: English]

[15 November 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on expansion of the conference facilities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) at Bangkok (A/C.5/39/24). During its consideration of the item, the Advisory Committee met with the Executive Secretary of the Commission and other representatives of the Secretary-General. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 4 of the first report of the Advisory Committee (document A/39/7 above), the Committee visited Bangkok during its spring and summer 1984 session.
2. In the introduction to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/24, paras. 1-7), he recalls that, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session appropriated \$400,000 for an architectural and engineering study for new conference facilities at ESCAP. Paragraphs 8 to 21 of the report deal with the appraisal of the Commission's proposed conference and ancillary requirements. Conference and meeting statistics for 1984, which were taken into account in evaluating requirements for the project, appear in paragraphs 51 and 52 of the report.
3. For the reasons stated in paragraphs 13 to 17 of his report, the Secretary-General is proposing construction of one large conference room with a total seating capacity of 800 persons, including 200 delegates seated at the table and 200 advisers behind; two medium-size rooms with a total seating capacity of 380 persons each, including 125 delegates at the table and 125 advisers behind; and one new small room accommodating 184 persons, including 50 delegates at the table and 50 advisers behind. The existing ESCAP conference hall, which has a total capacity of 260 persons and is adjacent to the secretariat building, will serve as the second of the two proposed small rooms. The Secretary-General states in paragraph 17 that these principal facilities will be accompanied by the following: conference offices; typing, reproduction and telecommunications facilities; press/information offices, including an audio-visual room; a delegates' dining room for 200 persons (with possibility for expansion to 300 persons) and parking facilities for approximately 500 cars. In paragraphs 18 to 20 of his report, the Secretary-General recommends that, in order to minimize the risk of costly additions and conversions arising in the years to come, a number of supplementary facilities and amenities should be incorporated into the project.
4. According to the statement in paragraph 21 of the report of the Secretary-General, "the facilities envisaged and the expansion potential that these facilities offer would be sufficient to meet the Commission's conference needs for some 20 years after construction."

5. Sections II and III (paras. 22-34) of the Secretary-General's report describe the development and evaluation of conceptual designs submitted by four pre-qualified international/engineering consortia. According to the Secretary-General, the conceptual design finally chosen, besides being satisfactory to ESCAP, was the least costly of all the designs considered.

6. Section IV (paras. 35-47), together with the site and floor plan drawings contained in the annex to the report, give detailed information on the scope of the project, its significant features and the ancillary facilities to be included in the expanded conference facilities, as envisaged in the selected conceptual design. The new conference complex will consist of a four-level main building, incorporating the new conference rooms, reception area, ancillary offices and services, and 11 multi-purpose briefing/caucus rooms; and two new garage buildings, providing 372 additional parking spaces for staff. The following assumption has been made (para. 47 of the report):

"Approximately three years will be required to complete the detailed designs, bidding and contracting processes and actual construction. Thus, based on a starting date of January 1985, the project could be completed early in 1988."

7. Detailed cost estimates for constructing and furnishing the facilities, as developed by the quantity-surveying consultant, are submitted in section VII (paras. 53-56) of the report. According to the Secretary-General, these estimates are based primarily on the use of local labour and building materials. The total capital cost of the project is estimated at \$39 million at 1984 prices, and includes provision for architectural and engineering fees amounting to 5 per cent, a 1 1/4 per cent fee for the quantity surveyors and a contingency reserve of some \$2.4 million. The estimate also includes provision for construction supervision by two senior engineers and four assistants for a 30-month period.

8. It has been assumed that construction costs would increase at a rate of 5 per cent a year, compounded, over the three-year building period (see para. 55 of the report). This would increase the total cost of the project by \$5,177,700, from \$39 million to \$44,177,700. On this basis, the Secretary-General projects a possible pattern of appropriations as follows: \$5,126,300 will be for the biennium 1984-1985; \$32,537,100 for 1986-1987; and \$6,514,300 for 1988-1989. For the reasons stated in paragraph 56 of his report, the Secretary-General recommends that funds appropriated for the project be placed in a separate construction account, unexpended balances being carried forward into succeeding biennia until the project is completed and the final accounts audited. The current status of the project would be reported annually to the General Assembly.

9. The question of control, administration and co-ordination of construction projects away from Headquarters is discussed in section VIII (paras. 57-60) of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/24). In this connection, the Secretary-General is proposing the establishment of a team, to be centred in the Office of General Services at Headquarters, whose functions would be "to direct and control all overseas projects, including retaining necessary architectural and engineering firms, overseeing contracting procedures and ensuring the co-ordination of the work of staff and contractors" (*ibid.*, para. 58). Staffing requirements for the Headquarters team in 1985 would be met by redeployment of existing resources. However, the Secretary-General indicates that requirements for 1986-1987 would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget. A small planning unit is proposed within the Division of Administration at ESCAP, comprising a technical

project co-ordinator at the P-4 level, a finance officer at the P-3 level and a local level clerical post, at an estimated cost in 1985 of \$74,100, including provision of \$8,000 for travel.

10. As regards future operating costs that may arise from expansion of the ESCAP conference facilities, the Secretary-General expresses the view, in paragraph 61 of his report, that it is not feasible at this stage to project reliable operational, maintenance and utility costs for the expanded facility.

11. The utilization of released space in the existing ESCAP buildings arising from the new construction, estimated at some 2,900 square metres, is addressed in section X (paras. 62 and 63) of the report.

Observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee

12. At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly, by its resolution 38/234, section VII, of 20 December 1983, accepted with appreciation the offer by the Government of Thailand of additional land for the proposed construction project. In response to its inquiries, the Advisory Committee was informed by representatives of the Secretary-General that ESCAP and host country government officials were continuing discussions to finalize the terms and conditions of the lease agreement on the additional land offered. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that the terms of the current lease for the original site provide for the payment to the Government of Thailand of one United States dollar annually by the United Nations. The initial period of the current lease is for 20 years (i.e., from 1 November 1971 to 31 October 1991). This lease also gives the United Nations the right to extend the agreement for an additional period of 10 years and it stipulates that, after the expiry of the extended lease, the United Nations and the Government of Thailand may conclude a further agreement on the same terms and conditions.

13. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, no expenditures should be incurred nor contracts entered into prior to the signing of the lease agreement. The Advisory Committee further requests the Secretary-General to inform it of the terms and conditions of the agreement.

14. A comparison of the meeting room proposals submitted by the Secretary-General in his present report (see para. 3 above) with information originally submitted by him to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session 1/ indicates that, excluding the expansion factor discussed in paragraph 15 below, no changes have been proposed for the large and the two small rooms. For the two medium-sized rooms, however, the number of seats for delegates at table for each of the rooms has been revised upwards from 100 to 125. The number of proposed caucus rooms has also been increased from 4 to 11. The Advisory Committee notes the reasons advanced by the Secretary-General for these adjustments in paragraphs 14, 15 and 19 of his report (A/C.5/39/24).

15. As stated in paragraph 44 of the report (ibid.), the design of the principal rooms "allows sufficient space for reasonable seating expansion through internal readjustment and rearrangement." In response to its inquiries, the Committee was informed that the design would permit an increase in the capacity of the conference rooms as follows: the large meeting room would ultimately accommodate 1,000 persons (instead of 800), including an increase in the number of delegates seated

at the table from 200 to 250. The seating capacity of each of the medium-sized rooms would be increased from 380 to 470 persons and delegates seated at the table would increase from 125 to 160; the seating capacity of the new small room would be increased from 184 to 220 persons, but the number seated at the table would remain at 50. There would be no change in the seating capacity of the existing conference hall which presently accommodates 260 persons, including 80 delegates seated at the table.

16. In paragraph 42 of the report, the Secretary-General indicates that the basement level of the new conference building will, inter alia, provide 140 parking spaces for use by delegates. He also proposes the construction of two garage buildings providing 372 new parking spaces for staff. This is in addition to the 252 parking spaces currently available in the existing ESCAP service building for use by both delegates and staff. The representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Advisory Committee that it was essential to offer adequate parking spaces, particularly to the staff, because the difficult traffic conditions in Bangkok compel the majority of the staff to use individual means of transportation. Furthermore, opportunities for street parking around the ESCAP complex are limited for a variety of reasons, including security considerations. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Secretary-General, in consultation with the staff, consider an arrangement whereby those who benefit from this service should make some contribution towards its cost.

17. A three-year timetable, commencing on 1 January 1985, has been assumed for the project (see para. 6 above). According to information provided to the Committee, this represents an accelerated approach which anticipates the completion of initial site demolition and clearance work, design and bidding, tendering and contract award procedures within six months. (One year was a more usual time frame estimated for such preliminary procedures.) Actual construction, which would take 30 months, was expected to commence in June 1985.

18. The detailed cost estimates for the proposed project, as developed by the quantity-surveyor, have been based primarily on the use of local labour and building materials (see paras. 7 and 8 above). Some of the items identified in paragraph 54 of the Secretary-General's report, such as marble cladding for external surfaces, an acoustic system, stage and projection equipment, simultaneous interpretation equipment and a cooling and heating system, may have to be imported. In this connection, the representatives of the Secretary-General stated that it was their understanding that article IV, section 8, of the existing Agreement 2/ between the United Nations and Thailand relating to the headquarters of ESCAP adequately covered the question of waiving customs and excise duties on construction equipment and materials that might need to be imported for the project.

19. The Advisory Committee notes the control, administrative and co-ordination arrangements proposed between ESCAP and Headquarters (see para. 9 above).

20. As regards the utilization of freed space, the Advisory Committee was informed that the space currently used as ad hoc conference rooms would be reconverted to office space upon completion of the construction project and that the cost of such conversion would be minimal. However, remodelling the existing lobby, reception and display areas that would be freed in the secretariat building could involve additional costs, the implications of which have yet to be examined. Furthermore, as indicated in paragraph 63 of the report, some of the released space would also be converted to provide accommodation for a staff canteen, staff training

facilities and staff association offices and amenities. The Advisory Committee trusts that before any long-term assignment of the freed space is authorized, a careful and thorough analysis of future office accommodation needs will be carried out.

21. Subject to its observations and recommendations in paragraphs 12 to 20 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly:

(a) Approve, in principle, the construction project for expansion of the conference facilities of ESCAP at a total estimated cost of \$44,177,700, excluding the cost of the planning unit at ESCAP;

(b) Approve an appropriation of \$5,126,300 for the biennium 1984-1985 under section 32 (Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance of premises) for the construction project, specifying that the appropriated funds be placed in a construction account and that any unexpended balance be carried forward until the completion of the project;

(c) Approve an appropriation in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 of \$74,100 under section 11 (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) and \$12,800 under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment), in respect of the proposed ESCAP planning unit;

(d) Request annual progress reports on the project from the Secretary-General.

Notes

1/ See A/C.5/38/34, paras. 23 and 24.

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 260, No. 3703, p. 35.

Ninth report

United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

(Agenda item 59 (1))*

[Original: English]

[21 November 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered, in so far as they relate to financial and administrative matters, the implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/39/L.30 on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) (for the text of the draft resolution, see the report of the First Committee on agenda item 59 (A/39/749, para. 26)). This draft resolution has been brought to the attention of the Fifth Committee by the Chairman of the First Committee in the communication reproduced in document A/C.5/39/43. The Advisory Committee has also considered the report of the Secretary-General on the draft statute of UNIDIR (A/C.5/39/33).
2. Draft resolution A/C.1/39/L.30 would, inter alia, have the General Assembly approve the draft statute of UNIDIR. The draft statute is contained in annex II to the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies (A/39/549).
3. In its consideration of this matter, the Advisory Committee has concentrated on the provisions of the draft statute of UNIDIR which deal with administration and finance.
4. The draft statute (A/39/549, annex II) is a revised version of the draft statute submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session. 1/ In its related report, 2/ the Advisory Committee referred to the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 37/99 K of 13 December 1982. In section IV of that resolution, the Assembly decided, inter alia, that UNIDIR should "function as an autonomous institution working in close relationship with the Department for Disarmament Affairs" and that "activities of the Institute shall be funded by voluntary contributions from States and public and private organizations." The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General "to give administrative and other support" to UNIDIR. In its report, the Advisory Committee drew attention to provisions of the draft statute which were vague as to the precise nature of the arrangements for providing financial and other support to the Institute. 3/ In the draft statute now before the Assembly, it is proposed that voluntary contributions shall form the principal source of financing for UNIDIR and that other sources of financing may include the regular budget of the United Nations under certain conditions.

* Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies.

5. Should the General Assembly wish to approve the above proposals, the Advisory Committee would recommend a number of technical amendments, the purpose of which would be to clarify the means by which the objectives already envisaged in the draft statute would be achieved. However, the Advisory Committee does not believe that its recommendations in the paragraphs below would require that the draft statute be referred back to the Board of Trustees of UNIDIR.

6. Article VII of the draft statute deals with finance. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, paragraph 1 (a) of that article leaves unclear the precise nature of what might be provided from the regular budget of the United Nations and how such a contribution would be calculated. Moreover, the manner in which funding would be approved for the activities referred to in paragraph 1 (b) is also left unclear.

7. Rather than providing for possible "support" from the regular budget, which might be confused with "administrative and other support" in article IX, the Advisory Committee believes that what should be considered is a possible subvention toward meeting the costs of the Director and his staff. A subvention would avoid the need for two separate UNIDIR budgets (see para. 13 below).

8. The Advisory Committee also believes it important to define a precise method to measure the upper limit of any subvention and to make it clear that the size of such a subvention need not equal the maximum possible, but could, depending on circumstances, be less. The present article VII, paragraph 1 (a), of the draft statute leaves unclear whether the basis for determining the amount of any contribution from the regular budget is to be the level of voluntary contributions for the year in which the regular budget contribution is being requested or for a previous year. The Advisory Committee does not believe that the annual level of a contribution from the regular budget should be determined on the basis of voluntary contributions for a previous year, since past experience is not always indicative of what may be expected in future. This is especially true in an operation the size of UNIDIR, in which even relatively minor fluctuations in funding can have significant effects. The Advisory Committee believes that the work programme for any given year must be drawn up on the basis of the best estimate of assured income for that year. That being so, it is unreasonable to require, as would paragraph 1 (a), that the annual level of a contribution from the regular budget be calculated with reference to income already received at the time the request for funds from the regular budget is being considered (which would be the autumn preceding the year in question), since pledges are not likely to have been paid by that time.

9. Finally, the Advisory Committee suggests an amendment which would clarify the procedure by which funds for the activities referred to in the present article VII, paragraph 1 (b), would be approved - that is, within the framework of the programme budget implications procedure (see A/C.5/39/33, para. 12).

10. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends that article VII, paragraph 1, be divided into three paragraphs, as follows:

Finance

1. Voluntary contributions from States and public and private organizations shall form the principal source of financing of the Institute.
 2. A subvention towards meeting the costs of the Director and the staff of the Institute may be provided from the regular budget of the United Nations. The actual amount of any subvention shall be determined in accordance with article VIII of the present statute; it may be less than, but shall not exceed, an amount equivalent to one half of the assured income of the Institute from voluntary sources in respect of the year for which a subvention is being requested. The assured income shall be that which has already been received or which has been pledged in writing by the time the level of any subvention is being considered.
 3. Specific activities which the General Assembly may request the Institute to add to its regular work programme shall be paid for from the regular budget of the United Nations in amounts to be determined at the time the activities are requested.
11. The remaining paragraphs of article VII would be re-numbered accordingly, and the reference to article VII, paragraph 2, in article IV, paragraph 2 (g) would also be changed.
 12. Article VIII of the draft statute concerns the budget of UNIDIR. The Advisory Committee believes it is necessary to clarify the procedures for review and approval of the UNIDIR budget, as follows:

Article VIII

Budget

1. The proposed annual budget of the Institute shall be based on the proposed draft work programme of the Institute. It shall be prepared by the Director in consultation with the Department for Disarmament Affairs and the Office of Financial Services of the Secretariat.
2. The proposed annual budget, together with the comments and recommendations thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees for action in accordance with article III, paragraphs 2 (b) and (c) of the present statute.
3. A recommendation by the Board of Trustees, under article III, paragraph 2 (c), for a subvention from the regular budget of the United Nations shall be transmitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for approval.

13. Since the Advisory Committee believes that it would be impractical to require an artificial formulation of two separate budgets, the text proposed by the Advisory Committee underlines the fact that there should be one annual budget for UNIDIR based upon a single work programme. In this connection, it would also be necessary to amend article III, paragraphs 2 (b) and (c) as follows:

(b) Consider and adopt the annual work programme and the proposed annual budget estimates;

(c) Recommend, if it considers necessary, a subvention from the regular budget of the United Nations in accordance with articles VII and VIII of the present statute.

Finally, the references to "work programmes" in article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and (c), should be in the singular.

14. The administrative and financial implications of the draft statute of UNIDIR for 1985 are discussed by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 7 to 12 of his report (A/C.5/39/33).

15. The Secretary-General states in paragraph 8 of his report that the Board of Trustees has considered and adopted a proposed budget for 1985 amounting to \$439,200. According to the Secretary-General, this budget is based on an anticipated income of \$293,000 from voluntary sources (on the basis of three firm pledges from Governments) and on a recommendation by the Board that the sum of \$146,500 (representing one half of the 1985 income from voluntary contributions) be provided from the regular budget of the United Nations.

16. A breakdown of the total resource requirements of \$439,200 is given in paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's report. In this connection, the Advisory Committee was informed that an amount of \$14,600 for reimbursement of programme support costs was inadvertently omitted from the breakdown. The amount represents 5 per cent of the anticipated income of \$293,000 from voluntary sources. The Committee notes that no attempt has been made in paragraph 10 to allocate the estimates as between voluntary funding and the regular budget (see para. 13 above).

17. On the basis of the information which was provided to it, the Advisory Committee does not object to the estimate of \$146,500 for the amount of the subvention which would be provided to UNIDIR if the draft statute is approved by the General Assembly. In this connection, the Advisory Committee was informed by representatives of the Secretary-General that the intention was to charge this amount to a new subsection of section 2B of the programme budget, which would be retitled accordingly.

18. The Secretary-General presents a review of the current financial situation of the Institute in paragraphs 13 to 15 of his report (A/C.5/39/33). He states in paragraph 14 that it is estimated that a deficit of the order of \$175,000 will be recorded at the end of the current year. In paragraph 15, he states that

"a one-time grant of \$175,000 from the United Nations regular budget for the biennium 1984-1985 would be necessary in order to eliminate the deficit. Alternatively, the sum may be treated as an advance to be recovered from future income of the Institute."

The Advisory Committee notes that this proposal of the Secretary-General does not derive from the draft statute now before the General Assembly. The Advisory Committee believes that the autonomous nature of the Institute and the requirement that voluntary contributions shall form its principal source of financing can best be preserved if the sums necessary to eliminate the deficit are set aside from future voluntary income of the Institute. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends against either a grant or an advance from the regular budget for this purpose.

19. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that, should the General Assembly decide to adopt the draft statute of UNIDIR, an appropriation of \$146,500 would be required for 1985 under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 to provide a subvention in the same amount to UNIDIR.

Notes

1/ A/38/467, annex IV.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/38/7/Add.1-23), document A/38/7/Add.11.

3/ Ibid., para. 8.

Tenth report

Use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups in
the United Nations in 1982-1983

[Original: English]

[3 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups in the United Nations in 1982-1983 (A/C.5/39/19), submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 37/237, section VIII, of 21 December 1982, and the related report of the Advisory Committee. 1/ During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General; in addition, it had before it supplementary written information in respect of former staff members engaged as consultants in 1982 and 1983.
2. As indicated in its paragraph 3, the Secretary-General's report "presents an analysis of the data on consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups who were financed both from the regular budget and from extrabudgetary funds for the biennium 1982-1983." In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that new provisions governing the use of these two categories were introduced with effect from 1 January 1983, 2/ and that a clearer definition of the two terms "consultants" and "participants" was included therein. The Advisory Committee welcomes the issuance of this instruction 3/ since, as previously noted by the Joint Inspection Unit, it "is a prerequisite for the attainment of full and strict implementation of the principles and guidelines on the use of outside expertise established by the General Assembly." 4/
3. In addition to an introduction, the Secretary-General's report comprises four sections and is supported by four annexes. In section I (Participants in ad hoc expert groups), the Secretary-General states that although the 1982-1983 expenditure under the regular budget and extrabudgetary funds represents an increase of \$110,700, or 3.6 per cent, over the total expenditure of \$3,104,400 for the biennium 1980-1981, "this increase, after taking inflation into account, would translate into a decrease in real terms" (A/C.5/39/19, para. 4). Information by budget section on the appropriations, cost and number of travels of participants in ad hoc expert groups for the two bienniums is provided in annex I to the report, while annex II gives detailed information on the nationality and region of origin of the participants. In paragraph 5 of the report, the Secretary-General observes that nationals of all but 19 Member States have participated in ad hoc expert groups during the four-year period.
4. Section II of the Secretary-General's report, supported by annexes II, III, and IV, provides data on consultants. As noted in paragraph 6 of the report, the 1982-1983 expenditure of \$15,580,100 under this heading represents a reduction of \$2,123,100, or 12 per cent, from the total expenditure for the biennium 1980-1981. A breakdown of these totals by budget section and source of funding is provided in annex III.

5. Summary data on consultancy contracts for the biennium 1982-1983, including a breakdown of the number of contracts, the total number of work-months, the level of education and the evaluation, are given in table 2 of the Secretary-General's report. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that out of a total number of 2,418 contracts, 2,370 of which were with individuals, 212 women were engaged as consultants during this period. During the same period, 210 former staff members were engaged as consultants (see paras. 7-12 below).

6. In respect of the ratings listed in table 2 under "Evaluation", the Advisory Committee sought information concerning the total of 251 corresponding to "Other" as well as the 594 corresponding to "Not available". Representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the designation "other" referred to evaluation ratings other than those listed, including the term "satisfactory". In this connection, the Committee was also informed that a total of four consultancies had been rated as "not adequate" or "unsatisfactory" in 1982-1983 as compared with six during the previous year. With regard to the 594 consultancies for which the evaluation was "not available", the Advisory Committee was informed that in some instances the final evaluation had not been prepared at the time statistics for the Secretary-General's report were being compiled. In other cases, the consultancies had not yet been completed. While the Advisory Committee understands the need for advance preparation of reports to be submitted to the General Assembly, it nevertheless trusts that in future reports the Secretariat will endeavour to reduce the number of cases for which the evaluation is "not available". The Committee also recommends that the number of unsatisfactory ratings given during the reporting period be identified.

7. Section III (paras. 9-11) of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/19), provides information on the employment of former staff members as consultants, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/237, section VIII. According to the Secretary-General, in 1982 there were 91 contracts issued to 74 former staff members, 40 of whom were over 60 years old; in 1983, 119 contracts were issued to 93 5/ former staff members, 60 of whom were over 60 years old. Summary information on these contracts by age group and amount paid is given in table 4. As indicated in paragraph 1 above, the Advisory Committee was provided with further details in respect of these consultancies.

8. In its resolution 37/237, section VIII, the General Assembly specified that, as an interim measure, no former staff member who was in receipt of a pension benefit from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) should receive from United Nations funds, regular budget or extrabudgetary, for work performed by him or her under contract or a special service agreement, emoluments in a total amount exceeding \$12,000 in any one calendar year. In this connection, the Secretary-General states in paragraph 11 of the report (*ibid.*), that of the 60 former staff members who were over 60 years old (and therefore presumably in receipt of a benefit from UNJSPF) and who were engaged as consultants in 1983, 6 were paid more than \$12,000. As shown in table 4 (b), three of these staff members were paid more than \$12,000 under a single contract. Representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Advisory Committee that the remaining three staff members who received more than \$12,000 in 1983 did so as a result of having been engaged more than once during the year.

9. Although resolution 37/237, section VIII, does not envisage exceptions, representatives of the Secretary-General emphasized that its object had been to avoid abuses by limiting the extent of "double dipping", i.e. the receipt of both

retirement benefits and consultancy fees. Furthermore, as the representative of the Secretary-General pointed out at the thirty-seventh session, during the debate on the draft resolution which subsequently became resolution 37/237, section VIII, it was not the Secretary-General's understanding that the Assembly intended to bar him from making exceptions if he felt them to be absolutely necessary. In such cases the Secretary-General would provide information on the exceptions to the General Assembly. 6/

10. The Advisory Committee concurs with this approach and also recalls its previous position that "with any set of principles or guidelines situations may arise in which exceptions may have to be made." 7/ However, such departures from the principle outlined in the resolution should occur only in exceptional circumstances and should be fully explained. In this connection, the Committee notes that it has been furnished with details in respect of the 6 exceptions that were made in 1983, and also with information on 11 former staff members aged 60 or over who received more than \$12,000 in 1982. However, since resolution 37/237 was adopted only in December 1982, the 11 cases in 1982 do not constitute exceptions. Consequently, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, the data to be furnished in respect of the current and future bienniums will provide a better basis for judging the effect of the resolution.

11. As stated in paragraph 8 above, the six exceptions cited for 1983 relate to former staff members who were over 60 years old and therefore presumably in receipt of a pension benefit from UNJSPF. However, the Advisory Committee notes that former staff members who retire between the ages of 55 and 59 may also be in receipt of a pension benefit. The Committee therefore sought information concerning the Secretariat's method of determining the exceptions that were granted; in particular, it queried the Secretary-General's statement in paragraph 9 of his report that "a distinction has to be made between those who retired at the end of their career and are presumed to be in receipt of a periodic benefit from UNJSPF and those who were separated from the Organization at an earlier age".

12. In this connection, the Committee was informed that former staff members had not been asked whether they were in receipt of a pension benefit; furthermore, the secretariat of the Pension Fund could not release such information without the agreement of the former staff member. Although it is safe to assume that former staff members over the age of 60 enjoy pension benefits, those who elect to take early retirement at age 55 may choose to receive a withdrawal settlement, in which case they would not enjoy a periodic benefit; or they may opt for a deferred benefit that is not granted until the individual is 60 years old. Representatives of the Secretary-General expressed the opinion that no significant abuse of the directive contained in resolution 37/237, section VIII, was likely to occur in the age group of 55-59; in this connection, they pointed out that only one of the five former staff members between the ages of 55 and 59 who were engaged as consultants in 1983 earned more than \$12,000. In view of the foregoing, the distinction outlined in paragraph 9 of the report (and quoted in para. 11 above) was made for the purpose of calculating the number of exceptions to the resolution. The Advisory Committee intends to keep this matter under review in its consideration of future reports of the Secretary-General.

13. Section IV of the Secretary-General's report focuses on the application of guidelines on the use of consultants and participants in ad hoc expert groups as laid down by the General Assembly in 1974. 8/ The first of these guidelines, referred to in paragraph 13 of the Secretary-General's report, "requires that the

use of outside expertise should be clearly related to priority activities in the work programme of the departments or offices, or to a specific legislative or programming decision." As can be seen from table 5 of the report, which outlines the purposes for which consultants were hired in 1980-1983, the majority of consultant services in 1983 related to special analytical studies (60.5 per cent). Advisory services and programme implementation accounted for another 9.4 and 8.2 per cent respectively.

14. Table 5 also indicates that 5.6 per cent of the consultancy services in 1983 related to other purposes, namely "Representation of the United Nations" (0.9 per cent), "Electronic data processing, etc." (0.8 per cent), "Editing" (0.8 per cent), "Translation and interpretation" (0.7 per cent), and "Various" (2.4 per cent). The Advisory Committee queried the inclusion of these headings, particularly in view of the Secretary-General's previous statement that individuals engaged for these purposes would be appointed as temporary staff or engaged as individual contractors, i.e. they would not be classified as consultants. 9/ Representatives of the Secretary-General reconfirmed that these purposes did not come within the functions of consultancy services as defined in the relevant administrative instruction. 3/ However, the related costs had incorrectly been charged to consultancy funds. The Advisory Committee understands that in future the costs of these services will be charged to funds for contractual services.

15. In paragraph 15 of his report, the Secretary-General states that in line with the requirement "that consultancy agreements should be short term in nature, the services of a consultant are normally limited to a maximum of 6 months in any period of 12 consecutive months." In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes from table 6 that, in 1983, 4.1 per cent of the special service agreements for consultants were for more than 6 months. While acknowledging that exceptions to guidelines may have to be granted, in line with its observations in paragraph 10 above, the Advisory Committee considers that the Secretary-General should provide explanations of such exceptions in future reports.

Notes

1/ A/37/684.

2/ ST/SGB/177 and ST/AI/296.

3/ ST/AI/296.

4/ See A/37/358 and Corr.2, para. 56.

5/ The Advisory Committee was informed that the number 91 appearing in paragraph 10 of A/C.5/39/19 was incorrect.

6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Fifth Committee, 72nd meeting, para. 43.

7/ See A/37/684, para. 4.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 31 (A/9631 and Corr.2), pp. 136 and 137, item 73.

9/ See A/C.5/37/27, para. 14.

Eleventh report

Programme budget implications of the following proposals of the First Committee: the draft resolution submitted in document A/39/745, the draft decision submitted in document A/39/749, the draft resolution submitted in document A/39/753 and draft resolutions B and F submitted in document A/39/755

(Agenda items 55, 59 (1), 63 and 65 (a) and (b))*

[Original: English]

[4 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered five statements (A/C.5/39/56-A/C.5/39/60), submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of four draft resolutions and a draft decision submitted by the First Committee under agenda items 55, 59 (1), 63 and 65 (a) and (b).
2. The Secretary-General estimates total requirements in 1985 at \$1,372,700 as follows:

* Relationship between disarmament and development [item 55].

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: Advisory Board on Disarmament Studies [item 59 (1)].

World Disarmament Conference [item 63].

General and complete disarmament: study of the question of nuclear-weapon-free zones in all its aspects [item 65 (a)].

General and complete disarmament: military research and development [item 65 (b)].

Secretary-General's statement	Draft resolution or decision	1985 requirements		
		Section 2B	Section 29	Total
<u>Thousands of United States dollars</u>				
A/C.5/39/56	A/39/755, para. 29, draft resolution B	100.0	388.7	488.7
A/C.5/39/57	<u>Ibid.</u> , draft resolution F	65.3	261.3	326.6
A/C.5/39/58	A/39/749, para. 68, draft decision	40.4 <u>a/</u>	152.0 <u>a/</u>	192.4
A/C.5/39/59	A/39/753, para. 8, draft resolution	-	158.2	158.2
A/C.5/39/60	A/39/745, para. 9, draft resolution	-	206.8	206.8
	Total	205.7	1 167.0	1 372.7

a/ Estimates of non-conference and conference requirements in 1986 (\$30,800 under section 2B and \$242,700 under section 29, respectively) will be dealt with in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987 (see A/C.5/39/58, paras. 10 and 11).

3. As shown in the table above, conference-servicing requirements under section 29, calculated on a full-cost basis, are estimated at \$1,167,000. These estimates will be reviewed and submitted towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements (see A/C.5/39/98).

4. Appropriations amounting to \$205,700 under section 2B are being requested at this stage for non-conference-servicing requirements. They are intended to cover travel and per diem expenses for three ad hoc expert groups, comprising a total of 43 governmental experts, scheduled to attend eight weeks of meetings, during 1985, to prepare studies on nuclear-weapon-free zones (A/C.5/39/56, paras. 6 and 9), on military research and development (A/C.5/39/57, paras. 6 and 10), and on deterrence (A/C.5/39/58, paras. 6, 7 and 10). In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, economies are possible since experience has shown that not all experts attend all scheduled meetings, nor do they participate for the entire duration. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommends that the estimate of \$205,700 be reduced by \$30,700 to \$175,000.

5. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that should it adopt the draft resolutions and the draft decision in question, additional appropriations in the amount of \$175,000 would be

required under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. The related conference-servicing costs amounting to \$1,167,000, calculated on a full-cost basis, would be reflected in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of the current session.

6. After pro-rating the reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee in respect of ad hoc expert groups, the requirements under section 2B attributable to the individual draft resolutions and draft decision submitted by the First Committee would be as follows:

	<u>United States dollars</u>
A/39/755, paragraph 29, draft resolution B	85 000
(<u>Ibid.</u>) draft resolution F	55 500
A/39/749, paragraph 68, draft decision	34 500
A/39/753, paragraph 8, draft resolution	- <u>a/</u>
A/39/745, paragraph 9, draft resolution	- <u>a/</u>
Total	<u>175 000</u>

a/ Financial implications in respect of conference servicing only (A/C.5/39/59 and 60, respectively).

Twelfth report

Programme budget implications of draft resolution VII submitted
by the Third Committee in document A/39/702

(Agenda item 93 (b))*

[Original: English]

[7 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/64), submitted in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of draft resolution VII submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/702, para. 22), which relates to the preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.
2. At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly, by its resolution 38/108 of 16 December 1983, accepted with appreciation the offer of the Government of Kenya to act as host to the World Conference. The Conference is now scheduled to be held from 15 to 26 July 1985, and to be immediately preceded by two days of pre-Conference consultations. An international meeting of non-governmental organizations will also be held for one week, either during or prior to the Conference (A/C.5/39/64, paras. 4 and 11).
3. The Secretary-General estimates total requirements related to the draft resolution at \$2,232,000 in 1985. As noted in paragraph 19 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/64), these estimates have been calculated "on the basis of the costs at Vienna, the established headquarters of the Conference secretariat. Under the terms of paragraph 5 of section I of General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976, the additional costs resulting from its change of venue from Vienna to Nairobi would be borne by the host Government." The Advisory Committee was informed by the representatives of the Secretary-General that the additional costs had not yet been determined.
4. Of the total requirements, \$1,958,200 relates to conference-servicing costs which have been calculated on a full-cost basis. Any request for additional appropriations in this regard will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs for 1985 (see A/C.5/39/98).

* United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace - Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

5. The remaining \$273,800 is for non-conference-servicing requirements, as described in paragraphs 14 to 18 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/64).

6. The Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of the request for \$37,400 in temporary assistance resources which will provide for three work-months each of one conference services co-ordinator at the D-1 level and an editor at the P-5 level for the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters, which is responsible for the technical servicing of the Conference. The Committee also has no objection to the estimates of \$13,200 for travel and subsistence of representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity; \$7,500 for an official reception to be given by the Secretary-General of the Conference; and \$19,200 for travel and subsistence of one staff member from each of the five regional commissions to attend the Conference.

7. The balance of \$196,500 is for travel and subsistence costs of 62 Secretariat staff members from various units at Headquarters to attend and service the Conference (*ibid.*, para. 8). The representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Advisory Committee that the estimate did not include the costs of travel from Vienna to Nairobi of 16 staff members from the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, which is responsible for the substantive servicing of the Conference. These costs would be borne by the host Government.

8. At the Advisory Committee's request, a functional breakdown was provided of the 78 staff members who would travel to Nairobi. From the additional information given, the Committee questions the need for attendance of such a large number, since some of the staff proposed for travel, in particular those from the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters, the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, of the Secretariat, appear to have overlapping assignments and responsibilities which could be combined, with resulting economies. The number of staff proposed for the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat (23) is not fully justified. In the Committee's opinion, a rigorous review by the Secretary-General of actual requirements for servicing the Conference should result in a reduction in the numbers proposed. In the circumstances, the Committee recommends that the estimate for travel and subsistence costs of staff to service the Conference be reduced by \$51,600, from \$196,500 to \$144,900.

9. In the preceding paragraph, the Advisory Committee has recommended a reduction of \$51,600 in the Secretary-General's overall estimate, i.e., from \$273,800 to \$222,200. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that should it adopt draft resolution VII submitted by the Third Committee (A/39/702, para. 22), additional appropriations would be required under sections 4, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 27 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, as follows:

<u>Section</u>	<u>United States dollars</u>
4. Policy-making organs (economic and social activities)	125 000
6. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	18 000
10. Economic Commission for Europe	1 300
11. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	5 200
12. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	5 800
13. Economic Commission for Africa	3 700
14. Economic Commission for Western Asia	3 200
27. Public information	<u>60 000</u>
Total	<u>222 200</u>

An additional amount of \$9,900 for staff assessment would also be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Thirteenth report

Communications system of the United Nations

[Original: English]

[10 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the communications system of the United Nations (A/C.5/39/39). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional oral and written information.

2. Paragraph 1 of the report of the Secretary-General contains proposals to interconnect the Organization's main offices and certain subsidiary offices with reliable multi-purpose communications circuits available 24 hours each day and dedicated exclusively to United Nations use. The proposed communications system includes United Nations-owned earth stations operating on leased satellite circuits, primarily for use by peace-keeping missions. Links between the main duty stations of the United Nations would be provided by leased telecommunications circuits. According to the Secretary-General, the proposed communications network would have the capacity to carry all the teletype, facsimile and electronic data traffic generated between the duty stations connected to it, as well as a significant portion of the telephone traffic. It is also proposed that provision should be made for a limited stock of communications equipment, to be held in reserve against the possible establishment of new peace-keeping missions on short notice.

3. The background to the proposal is contained in section II (paras. 4-8) of the Secretary-General's report. In paragraph 4 of the report, reference is made to a major review of telecommunications requirements which was conducted in 1974 and to a 1982 report 1/ of the Joint Inspection Unit on communications systems in the United Nations. The work of the Committee on Information relating to this issue is noted in paragraph 5 of the report. In paragraph 6, the Secretary-General states that, following a detailed examination of all types of internal telecommunications, e.g., cable, telephone, data transmission, facsimile, mail and diplomatic pouch, "it has been proved possible to identify the most important information paths between duty stations and the range of activities requiring telecommunications facilities."

4. In paragraphs 7 and 8 of his report, the Secretary-General explains the circumstances which led him, in the summer of 1984 and with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, to lease satellite facilities from the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (INTELSAT), for a five-year term at a cost of \$200,000 per annum, to connect Geneva, Jerusalem and Naqoura. This lease replaced an earlier arrangement by which the United Nations used, free of charge, the facilities of the experimental "Symphonie" satellite that was operated by a France-Federal Republic of Germany satellite consortium. The costs of the INTELSAT lease for 1984 have been met from within existing resources available to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the United Nations Truce Supervision

Organization in Palestine (UNTSO). Under the terms of the lease, use of INTELSAT satellites is limited to peace-keeping, humanitarian and emergency relief activities. The Advisory Committee's concurrence with this arrangement has already been reported to the General Assembly at its current session (see document A/39/7 above, para. 34).

5. Sections III and IV (paras. 9-12) of the Secretary-General's report outline the present situation and its deficiencies and describe opportunities for improvement. The existing United Nations communications network is described in paragraph 9 and illustrated in a diagram in annex III. The two primary operational centres, in New York and Geneva, are connected by a leased commercial circuit which can be used alternately for voice or data transmissions (referred to as an AVD circuit). Other AVD circuits (not shown in the diagram) connect New York with Washington and Baghdad. From New York, leased teletype circuits connect with Santiago, Montreal and Lagos, while other leased teletype circuits connect Geneva with Paris, Rome and Vienna. In addition to the leased satellite channels connecting Geneva with Jerusalem and Naqoura, Geneva is also linked by a high frequency radio teleprinter network with Jerusalem, Naqoura, Nicosia, Addis Ababa, Nairobi and Rawalpindi.

6. Proposals are made in section V (paras. 13-16) of the Secretary-General's report, and an implementation plan covering the 36 months from January 1985 to December 1987 appears in section VI (paras. 17-24).

7. As noted in paragraph 14 of the report, the proposed system "consists of a network of 24-hour, leased AVD circuits dedicated exclusively to United Nations use for teletype and telephone, facsimile and data circuits between New York and each of the major duty stations, i.e., Addis Ababa, Baghdad, Bangkok, Geneva, Nairobi, Santiago and Vienna, and circuits between London, Paris, Montreal, Rome and Washington, D.C. A complementary satellite communication system with United Nations-owned earth stations at Damascus, Geneva, Jerusalem, Naqoura, New York, Nicosia and Rawalpindi constitutes an integral part of this system. Earth stations, except those at Geneva, Jerusalem and New York, would be transportable and available to meet higher priority emergency requirements elsewhere. Limited investments in and reliance on high-frequency radio would continue as back-up to the satellite system." The proposed network configuration, which was developed in close consultation with the International Telecommunication Union is illustrated in a diagram in annex IV. Furthermore, in paragraph 15, proposals are made regarding the acquisition of reserve communications equipment to be used for new peace-keeping missions.

8. The costs of the Secretary-General's proposals are estimated at \$1,572,600 annually, in addition to a non-recurrent cost of \$5,762,500 (A/C.5/39/39, para. 25). Of the annual costs, \$1,073,200 would be covered by redeployments, leaving an annual recurring amount, after full implementation of the plan, of \$499,400. Details of these amounts are given in table 1 of the Secretary-General's report. The portion of these costs to be covered under the regular programme budget in 1985, for which an appropriation is requested, is shown in paragraph 26 of the report as \$1,877,400 (\$789,000 on a recurrent basis, offset by \$536,600 in redeployments, leaving a net recurrent cost of \$252,400, and a non-recurrent cost of \$1,625,000). Details of these amounts, showing the sections of the programme budget which are involved, are found in table 2 and annex I of the Secretary-General's report. According to the Secretary-General, "with regard to

those peace-keeping activities which fall outside the regular budget, the resources requested would be included in the budgetary requirements presented by the Secretary-General when the Security Council reviews the mandates of the missions" (ibid.).

9. Further details of the proposals, and the Advisory Committee's observations and recommendations thereon, may be found in the following paragraphs.

10. As regards peace-keeping activities, the Secretary-General, in paragraph 10 (a) of his report, expresses the view that there is a need for a reliable communications service, capable of providing high-quality circuits on a 24-hour basis, to be maintained between New York and each peace-keeping mission. Reference has already been made to the recent leasing of satellite facilities from INTELSAT to connect Geneva, Jerusalem and Naqoura (see para. 4 above). The further proposals of the Secretary-General are to replace the earth stations in Geneva, Jerusalem and Naqoura in 1985, as required under the terms of the lease with INTELSAT (see para. 11 below), and to install additional earth stations in New York and Damascus in 1986, and in Nicosia and Rawalpindi in 1987. The Rawalpindi earth station would be linked to a new communications channel, which is proposed to be leased on an INTELSAT Indian Ocean satellite in 1987.

11. In view of the statement by the Secretary-General, in paragraph 10 (a) of his report, that the present system does not meet requirements for reliability, the Advisory Committee sought additional information on these proposals. The Advisory Committee was informed that the earth stations in Geneva, Jerusalem and Naqoura were installed in 1976 for use with the previous "Symphonie" satellite, and, as stated in paragraph 10 (a) of the report, do not meet INTELSAT's technical specifications. Therefore, they must be upgraded or replaced in 1985 at a cost of \$587,500 each. The cost of the stations at Geneva and Jerusalem would be charged to section 2A (UNTSO) of the regular programme budget, while the resources for the Naqoura earth station (as noted in table 2, note b, of the Secretary-General's report) would be included in the budgetary requests made by the Secretary-General in the event that the Security Council renews the mandate of UNIFIL. The Committee was informed that the earth stations had a 10-year life.

12. In reply to questions concerning the possibility of leasing rather than purchasing the stations, the Advisory Committee was informed, first, that leasing would in practice be more expensive, and second, that this could not be done through the manufacturer but only through the telecommunications authorities of the countries in which the earth stations were to be located, thereby restricting the mobility desired for some of the stations. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee concurs with the proposal to purchase these earth stations in 1985. As regards the additional earth stations and satellite circuit proposed for 1986 and 1987, the Advisory Committee is not convinced that operational problems experienced in the peace-keeping missions concerned have been of sufficient magnitude to justify the expenditure involved. It appears to the Advisory Committee that communications between New York and the Geneva-based satellite network are of an adequate standard, without the need for a separate earth station and satellite link in New York. Furthermore, communications with Rawalpindi, the largest part of which consists of non-peace-keeping messages retransmitted to and from Bangkok and elsewhere, would be considerably reduced were Bangkok to be linked directly by AVD circuit, as proposed by the Secretary-General. Consequently, the Advisory Committee, at this time, recommends against the further expansion of the satellite network in 1986 and 1987.

13. In paragraph 10 (b) of his report, the Secretary-General states that because of delays in procuring equipment and recruiting staff for new peace-keeping missions, the United Nations has had to draw on the limited resources of existing missions to provide the essential manpower and equipment requirements of its new commitments. As indicated in paragraphs 10 (b), 15, 20, 22 and 23 of the report, it is proposed that a reserve stock of communications equipment be acquired. In the event that new peace-keeping missions were established, this stock would provide communications equipment to connect new contingents with force headquarters (\$380,000 from section 2A in 1985) and to supply two battalions of infantry (\$1,200,000 in 1986-1987). In the latter case, according to the Secretary-General, experience has shown that holdings of combat communications equipment are required to equip mission area personnel who arrive for duty with inadequate or no communications resources. Certain redeployments of Field Service personnel are also proposed, within authorized staffing tables, in connection with these requirements.

14. The Advisory Committee was informed that the estimated cost of the reserve communications equipment required to link new contingents with force headquarters (\$380,000) was approximately 30 per cent of the annual cost of communications equipment for existing United Nations peace-keeping missions. The Advisory Committee recalls that the United Nations Supply Depot in Pisa is already serving as a central depot for such items as radio equipment and that part of the Depot's function is to maintain a stock which would provide a buffer against delays in procurement. In view of this, the Advisory Committee, while aware of the desirability of contingency planning, is not convinced that an immediate need exists for the purchase of additional reserve communications equipment to link contingents with force headquarters in anticipation of the establishment of a new peace-keeping mission. As regards the proposal to provide communications links, at an estimated cost of \$1,200,000, with two battalions which may have inadequate communications resources on joining a new peace-keeping mission, the Advisory Committee was informed that in every peace-keeping operation mounted since 1956, except the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, it has been necessary for the United Nations to equip at least two battalions with communications equipment. In this connection, the Advisory Committee observes that past peace-keeping missions have generally operated satisfactorily, notwithstanding certain logistical difficulties which have had to be overcome. Accordingly, and for the reason stated above, the Advisory Committee does not support the proposed procurement of reserve equipment.

15. The Advisory Committee sought more information on the proposal to introduce a network of 24-hour leased AVD circuits, dedicated exclusively to United Nations use, which would provide teletype, telephone, facsimile and data circuits between New York and each of the major duty stations, as well as to London, Paris, Montreal and Rome. This network would be introduced in the first nine months of 1985 (see para. 19 of the Secretary-General's report) and its cost (estimated at \$536,600 in 1985) would be met by redeployment of existing resources for cables, telex, long-distance telephone and data-processing services, as shown in annex I to the report. In paragraph 26, the Secretary-General notes that these redeployments have been calculated on the basis of a six-month period in 1985 and that, if the proposed system is approved, additional redeployments will be made to cover the full cost of the system in the biennium 1986-1987 (estimated at \$1,073,200 per annum at 1984 rates).

16. In response to its inquiries, the Committee was informed that the annual costs of the nine additional leased circuits proposed would be as follows:

United States dollars

Addis Ababa	277 200
Bangkok	195 200
Nairobi	189 700
Santiago	166 900
Vienna	113 500
London	44 300
Rome	37 800
Paris	35 300
Montreal	<u>13 300</u>
Total	<u>1 073 200</u> a/

a/ In addition, Geneva, Baghdad and Washington, D.C. are already linked to New York by leased circuits for which \$396,000 is currently provided.

17. As to the estimated redeployments that could be made to cover these costs, the Committee was informed that an analysis was undertaken of long-distance telephone and telex communications at all duty stations in the latter part of 1983 and in early 1984, as a result of which the cost elements relating to communications in the proposed system were isolated. The resulting figures were adjusted to reflect the estimated traffic that would still need to be sent by other commercial means when the circuit was either temporarily out of action or overloaded, and further adjustments were made in the light of appropriation and expenditure patterns in 1984 and the comments of the departments concerned. No revised income estimates were included in respect of reimbursements from extrabudgetary programmes and specialized agencies, since it was considered difficult at this stage to estimate possible agency usage of the proposed system. However, the Committee notes that in 1983, the United Nations received over \$980,000 in income for the use of its cable facilities from extrabudgetary programmes and agencies.

18. The Advisory Committee notes from information provided to it that the redeployments proposed as a result of the study average, on a biennial basis, 15 per cent of the related appropriation for offices away from Headquarters (i.e., \$1,603,000 out of a total 1984-1985 appropriation of \$10,795,300) and 25 per cent at Headquarters (i.e., \$543,400 out of a total 1984-1985 appropriation of \$2,154,100). At the same time, the Advisory Committee considers that more could be achieved, particularly with regard to income from extrabudgetary sources.

19. The Advisory Committee sought information concerning the proposed extension of the network to London, Montreal, Paris and Rome. It was informed that the tentative plan was to locate the terminals at the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal and at the United Nations information centres in London, Paris and Rome. Detailed arrangements would be discussed with

the specialized agencies located in those cities. Where maximum utility and cost effectiveness might be obtained by locations other than the information centres, such alternative locations would be considered. The Advisory Committee was further informed that it was intended to undertake an analysis and possible revision of the policy governing charges for the use of the network. In view of the uncertainties surrounding this aspect of the proposal of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee recommends that the extension of the network to the four cities concerned not be implemented until the Advisory Committee has considered, at its spring session in 1985, a further report clarifying, inter alia, the expected traffic on the four lines and the estimate of income from extrabudgetary resources. In taking this position, the Advisory Committee is not, at this stage, recommending a change in the pattern of redeployments proposed by the Secretary-General to finance the AVD network as a whole; rather, it would wish to be assured that the net costs of this portion of the network (to be recovered from savings in other portions) are sufficiently low to justify the inclusion of these cities.

20. While the Advisory Committee notes that the proposed AVD network is intended to be introduced without additional cost to the United Nations, the Committee considers that its greatest potential benefit will lie in the opportunities provided for improved management of the Organization's resources. The Secretary-General outlines some of these opportunities, in the areas of public information, conference-servicing and administration, in subparagraphs (b) to (d) of paragraph 12 of his report. In response to its request for additional information, the Advisory Committee was informed that if, for example, a permanent, assured facsimile link were available between New York and the site of a major conference, supplemented by easily accessible voice communication, the number of translators and typists at the site of the conference could be reduced by 70 per cent, resulting in savings (assuming in-session documentation of 600 pages) of up to \$400,000 in travel and subsistence for a specific conference.

21. While the foregoing example relates to a one-time conference, the Advisory Committee considers that the potential for benefits in day-to-day operations should also receive careful attention. Consequently, the Committee requests that it be provided with a report on the operation of the system, at its spring session in 1986. This report should include financial data on the net costs of the new system, compared with expenditure for other forms of communications in the United Nations, and should provide information on the experience gained from the system and plans for its further use.

22. In paragraph 18 of his report (A/C.5/39/39), the Secretary-General notes that "early in the first phase, it would be necessary to engage specialized consultants and recruit two systems engineers at the P-3 level to design the detailed technical specifications of an integrated United Nations telecommunications system for use in contracting for circuits, earth stations and ancillary equipment, and to specify standardized operating procedures. In addition to start-up work, operating the proposed system requires engineers continuously to monitor, evaluate technical and cost developments, and make the required adjustments." The costs of this proposal are estimated at \$122,400 in 1985 and \$99,400 (at 1984 rates) annually thereafter.

23. In response to its inquiries, the Advisory Committee was informed that the tasks of the two engineers would be, inter alia, to design system modifications and circuit enhancements, to carry out traffic studies and constantly to improve quality, reliability and availability of the network. The consultants would be

engaged for 14 work-months in 1985 to provide technical guidance not available in the Secretariat. The Advisory Committee concurs with these proposals of the Secretary-General.

Recapitulation

24. For the reasons given in paragraph 12 above, the Advisory Committee, at this time, recommends against the further expansion of the satellite network in 1986 and 1987. This would reduce the estimated costs of the full system in the biennium 1986-1987 by a non-recurrent amount of \$2,350,000 (at 1984 rates) for earth stations, and by \$200,000 annually for leased facilities on a second satellite. Nor does the Advisory Committee support the proposed procurement of reserve communications equipment, for the reasons given in paragraph 14 above. The recommended reductions in this regard amount to \$1,580,000, of which \$380,000 would constitute a reduction in the proposed appropriation for the biennium 1984-1985. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve additional appropriations totalling \$1,497,400 under sections 2A and 28D of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. The Advisory Committee also recommends approval of the proposed redeployments between sections of the budget; therefore the following net revised appropriations are recommended for the biennium 1984-1985 (rounded to the nearest \$100):

Programme budget section	Additional appropriation	Redeployment	Net appropriation
<u>United States dollars</u>			
A. <u>Expenditure sections</u>			
1		(1 100)	(1 100)
2A	1 375 000	(1 600)	1 373 400
3		(4 300)	(4 300)
5A		(3 700)	(3 700)
5B		(1 300)	(1 300)
5C		(400)	(400)
6		(10 300)	(10 300)
8		(1 200)	(1 200)
9		(3 600)	(3 600)
11		(17 500)	(17 500)
12		(41 200)	(41 200)
15		(47 000)	(47 000)
18		(25 000)	(25 000)
19		(7 500)	(7 500)
21		(11 000)	(11 000)
27		(4 500)	(4 500)
28A		(1 600)	(1 600)
28B		(1 000)	(1 000)
28C		(2 500)	(2 500)
28D	122 400	471 500	593 900
28I		(149 000)	(149 000)
28M		(102 500)	(102 500)
29		(3 700)	(3 700)
31	9 600		9 600
Total	<u>1 507 000</u>	<u>30 000</u>	<u>1 537 000</u>
B. <u>Income sections</u>			
1	9 600		9 600
3		30 000	30 000
Total	<u>9 600</u>	<u>30 000</u>	<u>39 600</u>
Net increase (A minus B)	1 497 400	-	1 497 400

The above summary includes provision of \$9,600 under section 31 (staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Notes

1/ See A/37/372.

Fourteenth report

Programme budget implications of the recommendations of the
United Nations Council for Namibia in part four of its
report (A/39/24 (Part II))

(Agenda item 29)**

[Original: English]

[10 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1, in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. The statement covers the programme budget implications of the recommendations of the United Nations Council for Namibia, as contained in part four of its report (A/39/24 (Part II)). As indicated in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's statement, the Council has recommended for adoption by the General Assembly five draft resolutions (A to E) which are outlined in part four, chapter I, paragraph 1, of the Council's report. The Committee notes that more detailed information on the activities for implementing these resolutions is in part four, chapter II, of the same report.

2. Total 1985 requirements for implementing the draft resolutions have been estimated by the Secretary-General at \$5,867,300 for non-conference-servicing costs. The related conference-servicing costs are estimated at \$2,415,800 as against \$2,050,600 estimated in document A/C.5/38/54 and Corr.1 for 1984. However, as explained in paragraphs 72 to 76 of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1), taking into account amounts already appropriated under sections 3B, 3C and 27 of the programme budget for 1984-1985, the non-conference estimates would be reduced by \$1,770,300. Accordingly should the General Assembly adopt draft resolutions A to E, the Secretary-General estimates that, excluding conference-servicing costs, an additional appropriation of \$4,097,000 would be required.

3. During its consideration of the Secretary-General's statement, the Advisory Committee sought more information on the existing appropriations and expenditures incurred thus far under section 3C of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 relating to the United Nations Council for Namibia, expenses of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) office in New York, allocation from the regular budget to the United Nations Trust Fund for Namibia, and the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, and on that portion of the appropriation under section 27 (Public information) which relates to Namibia. At its request it was provided with the following table:

* Incorporating document A/39/7/Add.13/Corr.1 of 12 December 1984.

** Question of Namibia.

Breakdown of appropriations requested in document A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1 under sections 3C and 27 of the programme budget

	Initial estimates in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985	Appropriations approved for 1984, as per document A/C.5/38/54 and Corr.1	Effect of changes in rate of exchange and inflation	Total appropriations for the biennium 1984-1985	Unexpended 1984-1985 appropriations	1985 full-cost requirements	Additional appropriations required for 1985
<u>In thousands of United States dollars</u>							
1. United Nations Council for Namibia	1 800.2	1 044.6 <u>a/</u>	(63.0)	2 781.8 <u>a/</u>	1 780.5 <u>a/</u>	2 363.0	1 369.7
2. SWAPO office in New York	598.2	-	-	598.2	315.5	331.3	48.6
3. Allocation from the regular budget to the United Nations Trust Fund for Namibia	-	1 000.0	-	1 000.0	1 000.0	1 000.0	1 000.0
4. Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia	4 930.8 <u>b/</u>	688.9	(50.6)	5 569.1 <u>b/</u>	2 280.4	3 884.6 <u>d/</u>	595.9
	7 329.2	2 733.5	(113.6)	9 949.1	5 384.4	7 578.9	3 014.2
5. Department of Public Information <u>e/</u>	18.4 <u>f/</u>	629.0	(14.9)	632.5 <u>g/</u>	589.1	1 087.3	1 043.9

a/ Including special allocation (\$300,000) for co-operation with non-governmental organizations.

b/ Excluding the provision for the SWAPO office in New York shown against item 2.

c/ Including the provision for "Namibian Bulletin" and "Namibia in the News".

d/ Including 1985 recurrent appropriations and a non-recurrent estimate of \$753,900 for 1985 only (see A/C.5/39/70, para. 71, footnote a).

e/ Activities related to Namibia only.

f/ See A/C.5/39/70, para. 76.

g/ Other public information activities are undertaken by the Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia.

4. As can be seen from the above table, an additional amount of \$3,014,200 is requested for 1985 under section 3C, while \$1,043,900 is being sought under section 27. The balance of the total requested appropriation of \$4,097,000 relates to sections 1B, 28 and 29. The Advisory Committee notes that the 1985 full-cost requirements under sections 3C and 27 would total \$8,666,200, against the corresponding 1984 obligation of \$5,973,500, showing an increase of \$2,692,700 or 45 per cent. However, the full amount of this increase is not reflected in the proposed appropriation since, as noted in paragraph 2 above, amounts already appropriated but not obligated are offset against the requested appropriation for 1985.

5. In the table below, the additional appropriation being requested by the Secretary-General is broken down by section and compared with the corresponding request in document A/C.5/38/54 and Corr.1 submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session.

<u>Section</u>	<u>A/C.5/38/54</u>	<u>A/C.5/39/70</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Increase/</u>
	<u>and Corr.1</u>	<u>and Corr.1</u>		<u>decrease</u>
	<u>United States dollars</u>			<u>Percentage</u>
1B	6 400	12 900	6 500	101
3C	2 716 300	3 014 200	297 900	11
27	629 000	1 043 900	414 900	66
28	77 300	6 200	(71 100)	(92)
29	13 200	19 800	6 600	50
	<u>3 442 200</u>	<u>4 097 000</u>	<u>654 800</u>	<u>19</u>

6. As can be noted from the above table, the net increase of \$654,800 over the 1983 request relates primarily to increases under sections 3C (Namibia) and 27 (Public information) (\$297,900 or 11 per cent and \$414,900 or 66 per cent, respectively), offset to a small extent by a decrease under section 28 (Administration and Management). In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that a general explanation of the principal factors contributing to such increases is not provided in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1); information is also lacking which would explain the substantial increases which are proposed under individual activities. The Committee recommends that such justification, including tables similar to those in paragraphs 3 and 5 above, should be provided in future statements.

7. As indicated in paragraph 1 above, the United Nations Council for Namibia has recommended five draft resolutions for adoption by the General Assembly. The table below, provided to the Advisory Committee, gives a breakdown of the requirements under each draft resolution, at full cost, and the amount actually being requested:

Draft resolution	Paragraph references to A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1	Activities at full cost	Potential for absorption	Appropriation requested
<u>United States dollars</u>				
A. Situation in Namibia resulting from the illegal occupation of the Territory by South Africa	4-6	136 200	136 200	-
B. Implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978)	7	-	-	-
C. Programme of work of the United Nations Council for Namibia	8-38) 64-66)	2 664 300	1 432 700	1 231 600
D. Dissemination of information and mobilization of international public opinion in support of Namibia	39-52) 67-68)	1 993 100	201 400	1 791 700
E. United Nations Fund for Namibia	53-63	1 073 700	-	1 073 700
Total		5 867 300	1 770 300	4 097 000

8. As reflected in the above table and as stated in paragraph 6 of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General, in view of the provision already included in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, no additional appropriations are being requested for draft resolution A. The Secretary-General also indicates in paragraph 7 of his statement that resolution B "does not entail any programme budget implications in addition to those dealt with in the context of the other draft resolutions under consideration".

9. The Advisory Committee notes that many of the activities related to draft resolutions C and D are similar to those for which resources were requested in the Secretary-General's statement submitted to the thirty-eighth General Assembly (A/C.5/38/54 and Corr.1); however, in some areas the activities are either on a larger scale or require substantially more resources than was estimated in the previous submission. As noted in paragraph 6 above, detailed explanations of these increases have not been provided in the Secretary-General's statement.

10. In paragraph 12 of A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1, the Secretary-General estimates the cost of 40 missions envisaged by the Council in 1985 at \$610,300; the corresponding estimate for 40 missions in 1984 was \$517,000. In response to inquiries, the

Advisory Committee was informed that whenever possible missions were combined so that one team undertook several meetings during the course of one trip. However, the estimate of \$610,300 represented the costing for 40 separate missions.

11. The Advisory Committee was also informed that the estimates for travel and subsistence for the seminars, symposia, plenary meetings and international conference (see paras. 25, 26, 34 and 46, respectively, of document A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1) were calculated on the basis of 100 per cent attendance. For the purpose of costing the plenary meetings, it was assumed that all representatives would travel to the meeting site from New York, although the Committee was informed that this was not always the case.

12. The Advisory Committee welcomes the assurance given to it that efforts are made to consolidate missions whenever possible. At the same time, in order to avoid the possibility of appropriating funds which may not be spent in full, the Committee recommends that previous experience in this regard should be taken into account when calculating future estimates for travel, not only for missions such as those referred to in paragraph 12 of the statement, but also for seminars, symposia, plenary meetings and conferences.

13. The Advisory Committee notes that, as in previous years, the estimates for seminars, symposia and plenary meetings include provisions for survey missions for determining the availability of the necessary facilities. Journalist encounters are also planned to precede the seminars, symposia and plenary meetings as well as for the international conference discussed in paragraph 47 of the Secretary-General's statement. However, the Committee notes that the number of staff associated with the above activities will increase in 1985 as compared with 1984. For example, it is proposed that survey missions for seminars and symposia in 1985 will comprise four staff members instead of two, as proposed for 1984. Furthermore, staffing for journalist encounters will also double (from two to four in respect of encounters preceding the seminars and symposia; and from three to six for the encounters preceding the plenary meetings).

14. In response to inquiries, the Advisory Committee was informed that expertise available in local United Nations offices is utilized whenever possible to provide the staff services needed for the journalist encounters and to carry out the survey missions. The Committee underlines the importance of such an approach and recommends that in future the Secretary-General provide information in his statement showing the extent to which local expertise has been used.

15. In paragraph 18 of his statement (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1), the Secretary-General discusses the Council's intention to dispatch two high-level missions to SWAPO headquarters and to invite up to three SWAPO leaders to New York at an estimated cost of \$83,800. The Advisory Committee notes that this is a new activity as are the missions of SWAPO representatives (at an estimated cost of \$61,400) to attend meetings in New York and other venues, described in paragraph 29 of the statement.

16. In response to inquiries, representatives of the Secretary-General emphasized that the missions to New York described in paragraph 18 of the statement would be undertaken by leaders of SWAPO whereas the missions described in paragraph 29 would be of a different nature and would, furthermore, not be limited to New York. As indicated in part four, chapter II, paragraph 25, of the Council's report (A/39/24 (Part II)), approximately 20 persons would be invited to the meetings described in

paragraph 29. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalled that the General Assembly provided for the travel of SWAPO representatives to attend its sessions. However, representatives of the Secretary-General emphasized that the meetings described in the statement would not necessarily take place when the General Assembly was in session.

17. The Council has also recommended that in 1985 the General Assembly continue to defray the expenses of the SWAPO office in New York. As indicated in paragraph 28 of the Secretary-General's statement, the related cost in 1985 is estimated at \$331,300. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that an amount of \$598,200 was included in the initial appropriations under section 3C of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and that an identical amount had been included in the appropriation under section 3C for the biennium 1982-1983. However, as can be seen from the table in paragraph 3 above, over one half of the \$598,200 has been obligated in 1984, i.e. \$315,500, leaving a balance of \$282,700 which is \$48,600 short of the 1985 estimate. Accordingly, an additional appropriation to cover this shortfall is being sought.

18. In response to inquiries, representatives of the Secretary-General explained that the obligation for 1984 included a 5 per cent inflation factor; in other words, one half of the 1984-1985 appropriation plus 5 per cent. The estimate of \$331,300 for 1985 also took into account anticipated inflation for the year. In this connection, representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that while contributions of this sort were not normally subject to inflation, a provision for this element was included in the 1985 estimate in view of the Council's statement in part four, chapter II, paragraph 23, of its report that "the requirements of SWAPO would remain at the same level as in 1984, taking into account the inflation correction factor established for the regular budget of the United Nations."

19. Paragraph 20 of the Secretary-General's statement describes the mission which the Council would send to "contact administering and managing bodies of shipping interests which transport oil to South Africa and Namibia", at an estimated cost of \$26,600. The Advisory Committee was informed that this mission related to the continued examination of the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa and Namibia; consequently, while the focus on shipping is a new element, the activity is of a recurrent nature.

20. Paragraph 23 of the statement deals with the possible institution of legal proceedings in the domestic courts of certain countries where corporations or individuals engaged in economic activities in Namibia are based. In this connection, the Council, in part four, chapter II, paragraph 15, of its report, has estimated that \$250,000 would be required for further legal studies, remuneration for barristers and provision for court costs.

21. However, in paragraph 23 of his statement, the Secretary-General notes that a comprehensive plan of action in this regard has not yet been finalized; therefore he proposes that any requirements for this purpose which might arise in 1985 be financed from appropriations approved under section 3C of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 on the understanding that any resulting expenditure would be reported in the final performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. The Advisory Committee concurs with this approach; it also notes that in the opinion of representatives of the Secretary-General, it is unlikely that the

amount of \$250,000 would be exceeded in 1985 should the Council decide to institute legal proceedings.

22. As indicated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 45 of his statement (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1), the cost of the information programme envisaged by the United Nations Council for Namibia for 1985 is estimated at \$1,239,200; the programme will be undertaken partly by the Department of Public Information (\$553,600) and partly by the Office of the Commissioner for Namibia (\$685,600). The Advisory Committee notes that, with the exception of the quarterly Namibia Bulletin and weekly newsletter Namibia in the News, the cost of which is estimated at \$158,000, the activities listed in paragraph 44 of the statement (some of which have been completed), are identical with those for which resources were requested for 1984. However, the 1985 estimate exceeds the 1984 request by \$207,400. In this connection, the Committee notes that the amount of \$199,600 being requested for "film, filmstrips and slide sets" reflects an increase of \$77,800 over the corresponding request for 1984. In addition, costs relating to the "acquisition, reproduction and distribution of other material" are estimated at \$615,100 as compared with a request for 1984 of \$535,900.

23. Although the Advisory Committee was provided, at its request, with additional information on the activities listed in paragraph 44 of the statement, it believes that the information programme may be overly ambitious and doubts whether it can be fully implemented in 1985.

24. The Advisory Committee sought information concerning the division of the programme between the Office of the Commissioner for Namibia and the Department of Public Information. (The Committee was also informed that the Department of Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization also assisted the Commissioner's office in certain tasks such as editing and printing of documents.) In the opinion of the Committee, such a division is not conducive to the optimum use of resources. In the light of this, as well as the increasing costs associated with implementing the public information programme, the Advisory Committee recommends that consideration be given to having the bulk of the information programme implemented by one organizational unit.

25. In paragraph 52 of his statement (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1), the Secretary-General states that under the terms of draft resolution D, the General Assembly would decide "to allocate the sum of \$300,000 to be used by the United Nations Council for Namibia for its programme of co-operation with non-governmental organizations." The Advisory Committee notes that this amount is identical with the corresponding request for 1984. In response to inquiries, the Committee was informed that the allocation was normally used to help finance specific projects/events of non-governmental organizations which, in the opinion of the Council, would further the cause of Namibia.

26. Of the requirements relating to draft resolution E (\$1,073,700), \$1 million corresponds to the sum which the General Assembly is requested to allocate as a temporary measure to the United Nations Fund for Namibia from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1985 (ibid., para. 53). At its request, the Advisory Committee was provided with information regarding the Fund's expenditures in 1984, the bulk of which related to fellowships for Namibians.

27. In paragraph 64 of the statement (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1), the Secretary-General states that the programme of work of the Council in 1985

"represents an extensive programme of meetings, most of them at locations other than established headquarters which will entail an increased work-load for the departments and offices providing support to the Council's activities." The Advisory Committee notes that this meeting programme entails a number of exceptions to the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3415 (XXX), 31/140 and 37/14 C of 8 December 1975, 17 December 1976 and 16 November 1982. In connection with the meeting programme, the Secretary-General is requesting \$19,800 for 130 days of temporary assistance at the P-2 level for the Department of Conference Services (Headquarters) under section 29A (*ibid.*, para. 65) and \$12,900 for 6 months of temporary assistance at the G-4 level for the Office for Field Operational and External Support Activities under section 1B (OFOESA) (*ibid.*, para. 66). The Committee recalls that the corresponding requests in document A/C.5/38/54 and Corr.1 were for 90 days of temporary assistance at the P-2 level for the Department of Conference Services and 4 months of temporary assistance at the G-4 level for the Office for Field Operational and External Support Activities; however, according to representatives of the Secretary-General, these provisions proved insufficient.

28. In paragraph 67 of his statement the Secretary-General states that by operative paragraph 8 of draft resolution D, the General Assembly would request "the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Council for Namibia with the work programme of the Department of Public Information for the year 1985 covering the activities of dissemination of information on Namibia, followed by periodic reports on the programmes undertaken, including details of expenses incurred." According to the Secretary-General, 12 months of temporary assistance (1 P-4 and 1 G-5) would be required under section 27 at an estimated cost of \$93,500 in order to implement that request as well as to carry out other information activities related to the Council's programme.

29. In response to inquiries in respect of the need for this provision, representatives of the Secretary-General clarified that in addition to co-ordinating with the Council on the information programme, the staff involved would have, as a major task, the organization of journalist encounters.

Recapitulation

30. While the Advisory Committee has recommended no reductions in the Secretary-General's estimates contained in his statement (A/C.5/39/70 and Corr.1), it trusts that the programme of work will be implemented efficiently and with a view to achieving the objectives of the Council as economically as possible. With regard to the Committee's concern about the lack of clarity in the Secretary-General's proposals, it recommends that in future submissions increases/decreases in the level of activities and related resources be identified and explained fully. Furthermore, past experience should be taken into consideration in developing the cost estimates. In future, beginning with the statement to be submitted at the fortieth session, the Committee's recommendations on additional appropriations will be influenced, among other considerations, by the extent to which the Secretary-General's estimates take into account the technical recommendations of the Advisory Committee in its present report.

31. Subject to the foregoing observations, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft

resolutions A to E, additional appropriations amounting to \$4,097,000 would be required as follows:

<u>Section</u>	<u>United States dollars</u>
1B	12 900
3C	3 014 200
27	1 043 900
28	6 200
29	19 800
	<hr/>
Total	4 097 000
	<hr/>

An additional amount of \$26,100 would be required under section 31 (Staff assessment) to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

32. The estimate for conference-servicing requirements (\$2,415,800) will be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs for 1985 to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session (see A/C.5/39/98).

Fifteenth report

Programme budget implications of the draft resolutions
contained in documents A/39/L.17 and 18

(Agenda item 18)*

[Original: English]

[13 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/80), in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of the draft resolutions contained in documents A/39/L.17 and 18.

2. The total 1985 requirements for implementing the provisions of the draft resolutions are estimated in paragraph 25 of the statement at \$1,645,500, including an estimate of \$599,900 for conference-servicing requirements which will be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs for 1985, to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session (see A/C.5/39/98). The balance of \$1,045,600, under sections 3A, 3B, 27 and 28 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, relates to the following three activities:

	<u>United States dollars</u>
Regular programme of work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (draft resolution A/39/L.17)	221 600
Programme of activities in observance of the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (draft resolution A/39/L.17)	689 200
Programme of dissemination of information on decolonization (draft resolution A/39/L.18)	134 800
Total	<u>1 045 600</u>

* Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

3. As explained in paragraphs 26 to 28 of the Secretary-General's statement, the full cost in 1985 for the above activities would be reduced by \$424,100 in view of amounts already appropriated under sections 3A, 27 and 28 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. Consequently, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolutions in question, additional appropriations totalling \$621,500 would be required, as outlined in paragraph 33 of the Secretary-General's statement.

Regular Programme of Work of the Special Committee
on the Situation with regard to the Implementation
of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence
to Colonial Countries and Peoples

4. The Advisory Committee notes that the activities described under this heading in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/80) are similar to those outlined in the Secretary-General's statement submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session (A/C.5/38/72). The estimate of \$221,600 for the activities described in the statement submitted at the current session is considerably less than the estimate of \$320,200 in document A/C.5/38/72, due in large part to the reduced number of proposed visiting missions to colonial territories. Certain other activities reflect increases in the statement submitted at the current session, but the Committee was informed that these related primarily to increases in the level or frequency of the activity concerned.

Programme of activities in observance of the
Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Declaration
on the Granting of Independence to Colonial
Countries and Peoples

5. The estimate of \$689,200 for non-conference requirements under this heading relates to new activities described in paragraphs 8 to 19 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/80), including the holding of an extraordinary session of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Africa (\$234,700), two regional seminars (one in Asia and one in Latin America) (\$325,700) and a seminar at Headquarters (\$95,800). As can be seen from the breakdown provided in paragraphs 11, 12 and 15 of the Secretary-General's statement, the bulk of the non-conference requirements of these meetings relates to the travel and subsistence of the participants. In addition, provision is included for public information requirements in respect of the extraordinary session and the regional seminars.

6. With the exception of the seminar at Headquarters, the Advisory Committee notes that the estimates also provide for survey missions, each comprising four staff members, to prepare for the extraordinary session and the seminars away from Headquarters. In response to inquiries, the Committee was informed that for the purpose of calculating the estimates, it was assumed that the staff undertaking the survey missions would travel from New York. However, representatives of the Secretary-General also explained that an effort would be made to effect savings through a review of the number of staff required and the possible utilization of staff at duty stations closer to the meeting site.

7. During its consideration of the estimates for the various meetings, the Advisory Committee took into account information that had been provided to it regarding previous experience in respect of meetings of this nature. In the light of this, the Committee believes there may be scope for savings in the current estimates for travel and subsistence. Given the level of existing resources available to the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, the Committee also questions whether the additional resources requested for the public information activities of the meetings would be required in their totality.

8. In paragraph 13 of his statement, the Secretary-General states that in connection with the regional seminars the Rapporteur of the Special Committee would be requested "to prepare a background paper on the one hundredth anniversary of the struggle of the people of southern Africa against colonialism", and that "in view of the urgent need to prepare the study in good time before the holding of seminars in early 1985, the Rapporteur would be assisted in his task by a consultant to be contracted for a period of not more than four months", at an estimated cost of \$24,000 under section 3B.

9. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that the United Nations has conducted many studies and collected much information on the struggles of the people of southern Africa. In view of this, the Committee considers that the necessary expertise to assist the Rapporteur in preparing the above-mentioned study should be available within the Secretariat. It therefore questions the need to include a provision for this purpose.

10. In paragraph 17 of his statement, the Secretary-General indicates that \$9,000 would be required for 10 commemorative gold medals to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Advisory Committee questions the expenditure involved.

Programme of dissemination of information on decolonization

11. As indicated in paragraph 2 above, the activities to be undertaken under this heading relate to draft resolution A/39/L.18, and are described in paragraph 22 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/80). A breakdown of the total cost of the activities (\$134,800) is provided in paragraph 23 of the statement. At its request, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information regarding these activities.

Recapitulation

12. As stated in paragraph 3 above, an additional appropriation of \$621,500 would be requested under sections 3A, 3B and 27 of the programme budget, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolutions in question. However, in the light of the observations in paragraphs 6, 7, 9 and 10, above, the Advisory Committee recommends that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolutions, an additional amount of \$512,000 in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 for 1985 be appropriated as follows:

Section	Amount requested in A/C.5/39/80	Reduction recommended by the Advisory Committee	Appropriation recommended	
<u>United States dollars</u>				
3A	Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	407 400	35 400	372 000
3B	Department of Political Affairs, Trusteeship and Decolonization	24 000	24 000	-
27	Department of Public Information	<u>190 100</u>	<u>50 100</u>	<u>140 000</u>
	Total	621 500	109 500	512 000

13. As indicated in paragraph 2 above, the estimate of \$599,900 for conference-servicing requirements would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs for 1985 (see A/C.5/39/98).

Sixteenth report

First performance report on the programme budget for the
biennium 1984-1985

[Original: English]

[14 December 1984]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (A/C.5/39/88).
2. As noted in paragraph 1 of the report of the Secretary-General, the revised net requirements for the biennium 1984-1985 are estimated at \$1,277,647,300, which is \$25,619,700, or 1.97 per cent, less than the net requirements of \$1,303,267,000 approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/236 of 20 December 1983. Expenditure estimates are reduced by \$9,158,700, while estimates of income are increased by \$16,461,000.
3. As noted in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's report, "the changes primarily reflect variations in the rates of exchange and in the impact of inflation, changes in standard costs and decisions of policy-making organs the implementation of which could not be deferred to the 1986-1987 biennium". The Advisory Committee notes that while the report contains the same elements as before, its format has been changed to segregate adjustments in standard costs from the effects of unanticipated inflation. The Committee considers this to be an improvement in the form of presentation of the report.
4. The elements comprising the reduction in expenditure estimates are summarized in paragraph 19 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/88) as follows:

United States dollars

Decisions of policy-making organs	1 920 700
Other changes	1 198 800
Adjustments to standard costs	36 061 600
Savings from more favourable rates of exchange	(45 697 900)
Savings from lower than anticipated inflation rates	(2 641 900)
Net reduction in expenditure	<u>(9 158 700)</u>

5. The estimated increase in income is described in paragraphs 15 to 18 of the Secretary-General's report, and may be summarized as follows:

United States dollars

Increase in income from staff assessment	18 511 200
Decrease in general income	(685 700)
Decrease in revenue-producing activities	<u>(1 364 500)</u>
Net increase in income	<u>16 461 000</u>

6. Annexes I and II to the Secretary-General's report provide a breakdown of these figures by section; additional information on rates of exchange and inflation is given in schedules 1 to 5 of the report.

7. The additional requirements attributable to decisions of policy-making organs and other changes (totalling \$3,119,500) are outlined in paragraphs 5 and 6 of the report. The total includes \$2,803,100, which has been incurred under the terms of General Assembly resolution 38/237 of 20 December 1983 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985, and \$316,400 in other commitments. Approximately two thirds of the amount under "other commitments" refers to expenditures projected for the International Court of Justice in 1985, as indicated in section 25 (b), paragraph 6, of the report. The Advisory Committee was informed that, had an appropriation not been requested for these amounts, they could have been incurred in 1985, on the certification of the President of the International Court of Justice, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/237, paragraph 1 (b).

8. The additional amount required as a result of adjustments to standard costs (\$36,061,600) is discussed in paragraphs 7 to 10 of the report of the Secretary-General. 1/ The heading "Adjustments to standard costs" covers three components, which in previous performance reports were included under the heading of inflationary adjustments, namely: (a) the consolidation of 20 points of post adjustment into base salaries, as approved by the General Assembly in resolution 39/27 of 30 November 1984; (b) an adjustment in vacancy rates, reflecting higher than foreseen vacancy situations among both Professional and General Service staff in New York and Geneva; and (c) changes in the percentage rate of common staff costs. The Advisory Committee notes that two of these elements are offset, in full or in part, by amounts allotted to income section 1 (Income from staff assessment) (see A/C.5/39/88, para. 15). The net effect of these adjustments, after application of staff assessment, amounts to \$14,580,000, as follows:

	Gross	Staff assessment	Net
(Thousands of U.S. dollars)			
Consolidation of 20 points of post adjustment (A/C.5/39/88, para. 7 (a))	23 452.0	23 452.0	-
Adjustment in vacancy rates (<u>ibid.</u> , paras. 7 (b) and 9)	(9 790.9)	(1 970.4)	(7 820.5)
Changes in the percentage rate of common staff costs (<u>ibid.</u> , para. 7 (c))	<u>22 400.5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22 400.5</u>
Total	36 061.6	21 481.6	14 580.0

9. The components of the additional amounts required for common staff costs in New York, Geneva and Vienna are listed in the table following paragraph 13 of the Secretary-General's report. The Advisory Committee was informed that increases in amounts required under this heading could arise either as a result of action by legislative organs to increase amounts payable (as occurred at the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly in respect of medical insurance at Headquarters, education grants and pension contributions), or because more staff members become eligible for existing entitlements under the Staff Rules and Regulations. A summary of recent experience with regard to common staff costs (which are expressed, for budgeting purposes, as a percentage of net salary), appears in schedule 5 of the report.

10. The savings resulting from more favourable rates of exchange are estimated at \$45,697,900. Actual rates of exchange experienced in 1984 are outlined in schedule 2 of the report of the Secretary-General. In accordance with past practice, and as noted in paragraph 14 of the report, the operational rates of exchange for December 1984 have been used as a basis for projecting exchange rates, at a constant level, to the end of 1985. Also in paragraph 14 of the report, the Secretary-General notes that "should the present foreign exchange value of the United States dollar change during 1985, the necessary upward or downward adjustments in the 1984-1985 appropriation would be reflected in the final performance report". The Advisory Committee concurs with this approach.

11. Savings resulting from lower than anticipated inflation rates are estimated at \$2,641,900. Estimated inflation rates in 1984 and 1985, as compared with the initial appropriations for the biennium, are shown in schedule 1 of the report. As noted in paragraph 12 of the report, downward adjustments appear to be warranted in Geneva, Vienna, The Hague and Rome, whereas, in the case of Baghdad, an upward adjustment has been required in respect of 1984 only. No change is indicated in respect of inflation at Headquarters, which continues to be estimated at the rate of 5 per cent per annum.

12. In view of the foregoing, the Advisory Committee sought additional information on the breakdown of inflation, by duty station, in table 2 of annex I to the report. According to that table, savings arising from reduced inflation may be expected at every duty station except New York and Bangkok. In New York additional requirements attributed to inflation are estimated at some \$25 million. Representatives of the Secretary-General explained that certain increases had arisen in the biennium 1984-1985 that exceeded the standard rate of inflation experienced during the biennium. These increases amounted to \$25,078,600, of which \$5,036,200 related to staff assessment, and was offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1. The resulting net increase of \$20,042,400 could be summarized as follows:

(a) General Service staff. Increase resulting from the survey conducted by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) on best prevailing conditions in New York	7 982 700
(b) Professional staff. Increase resulting from an additional class of post adjustment in New York, in August 1984, as a result of a decision by ICSC	4 148 700
(c) Common staff costs. Increased budgetary provision at standard rates consequent to (a) and (b) above	3 578 000
(d) Requirements of the Office of General Services (see A/C.5/39/88, para. 13)	3 108 300
(e) Requirements of other offices, similar to (d) above	411 400
(f) Additional requirements in respect of the after-service medical insurance scheme for retired staff members	<u>813 300</u>
Total	<u>20 042 400</u>

13. The Advisory Committee recommends that the foregoing breakdown be included, as appropriate, in the body of future performance reports. As regards the increases attributable to the decisions of ICSC, the Advisory Committee recalls that it has already reported to the General Assembly, at its current session, on the administrative and financial implications of those decisions (see document A/39/7/Add.4 above).

14. As noted in paragraph 5 above, increases in income are estimated at \$16,461,000, reflecting an increase of \$18,511,200, under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment), offset by decreases under income sections 2 and 3. The increase in income section 1 corresponds mainly to the increase in respect of staff assessment in expenditure section 31, the elements of which may be found in table 1 of annex I to the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/88). The main reason for the increase is the consolidation of 20 points of post adjustment into base salaries, as noted in paragraph 8 above.

15. In response to its inquiries, the Advisory Committee was informed that the estimated reduction of \$1,364,500 in income from revenue-producing activities, as noted in paragraph 18 of the Secretary-General's report (*ibid.*), is due to declining economic conditions and a decrease in the number of visitors to the United Nations. According to information provided to the Advisory Committee, expenditures, particularly those relating to salaries in the gift and souvenir shops, are being reduced in approximate proportion to the loss in revenue, and it is still anticipated that net revenue from the two operations will exceed \$1 million for the biennium 1984-1985.

Conclusion

16. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of the revisions to the appropriation and estimates of income for the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 as contained in annexes I and II of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/39/88).

Notes

1/ The Advisory Committee was informed that the table following paragraph 13, as well as the sentence preceding the table, should have been inserted after paragraph 10.

Seventeenth report

Emoluments of the Secretary-General, the Director-General for
Development and International Economic Co-operation and the
Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

(Agenda item 117 (a))*

[Original: English]

[14 December 1984]

1. The emoluments of the Secretary-General were last reviewed by the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session. At that session, the Assembly adopted resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980, in section XVII of which it concurred with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, contained in paragraph 3 of its thirty-first report to the General Assembly, 1/ that the annual emoluments of the Secretary-General should be as follows:

	<u>With dependants</u>	<u>Without dependants</u>
	<u>United States dollars</u>	
Gross salary	139 300	139 300
Net salary	72 516	65 111.50
Post adjustment (per index point)	595	534

2. In paragraph 4 of the same report, the Advisory Committee pointed out that its recommendation in paragraph 3 would have a consequential effect on the amount of the maximum retirement benefit, which is equal to one half of the gross salary (General Assembly resolution 2772 (XXVI) of 29 November 1971), and which would therefore be increased to \$69,650. The Committee went on to state that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 31/208, section IX, of 22 December 1976, there would be a proportionate increase in pensions in payment.

3. The action by the General Assembly in resolution 35/217 resulted in an increase in the Secretary-General's net salary by an amount corresponding to the consolidation of 30 points of post adjustment (which the Assembly had already approved for staff in the Professional and higher categories, in resolution 35/214 of 17 December 1980), with a corresponding decrease in the amount of post adjustment payable to the Secretary-General so as to ensure that there was neither gain nor loss of net emoluments.

4. In its resolution 35/214, the General Assembly also approved certain amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations; one of those amendments

* United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission.

relates to annex 1, paragraph 1, which deals, inter alia, with the salary of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation.

5. The General Assembly, by resolution 39/27 of 30 November 1984, has approved the recommendation of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), contained in paragraph 137 of its report, 2/ to consolidate 20 points of post adjustment into the base salaries of staff in the Professional and higher categories with effect from 1 January 1985. The Assembly also approved the recommendations of ICSC (paras. 136 and 137 and annex V of its report) for changes in the scales of staff assessment in respect of the same categories of staff.

Emoluments of the Secretary-General

6. Application of the same procedure which was followed at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly would now yield, in respect of the consolidation of 20 points of post adjustment, the following results for the Secretary-General's salary:

	<u>Before consolidation</u>		<u>After consolidation</u>	
	With dependants	Without dependants	With dependants	Without dependants
<u>United States dollars</u>				
(a) Net salary	72 516	65 112	85 000	74 621
(b) Post adjustment				
(i) per index point	595	534	695	613
(ii) amount (mult. 71)	<u>42 245</u>	<u>37 914</u>	(mult. 43) <u>29 885</u>	<u>26 359</u>
Total (a) + (b) (ii)	114 761	103 026	114 885	100 980

7. With regard to the Secretary-General's retirement allowance, as indicated in paragraph 2 above, the General Assembly, by resolution 2772 (XXVI), established it at one half of the gross salary if the Secretary-General completed a full term of office. By resolution 31/208, section IX, the General Assembly also approved the recommendation of the Advisory Committee 3/ that, with effect from 1 January 1977, the pensions in payment to former Secretaries-General or their surviving spouses should be adjusted proportionately whenever the Assembly took a decision affecting the maximum retirement allowance for the Secretary-General.

8. The Advisory Committee recalls that the gross salary of the Secretary-General has in the past been determined by reverse application of staff assessment rates to

the net base salary. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that the changes which have been approved in the rates of staff assessment (see para. 5 above), inter alia, introduce an element of progressivity in the rates of staff assessment beyond income levels of \$90,000. According to ICSC, the resultant increase in the gross salaries for the most senior staff, would "have no practical effect" (para. 136 of the ICSC report 2/). In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that ICSC is recommending a revised methodology for determining the appropriate level of pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional and higher categories under which the direct link between pensionable remuneration and gross salaries would no longer exist (paras. 38-46 and 49 of the ICSC report). In the case of the Secretary-General, however, because of General Assembly resolution 2772 (XXVI), a gross salary calculated by reverse application of the new staff assessment rates to the net base salary would result in a significant consequential increase in the maximum annual retirement allowance, with further consequential effects on pensions in payment. 4/

9. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee believes that the increase in the current gross salary of the Secretary-General should be limited to the percentage increase in the "with dependants" rate of the net salary after consolidation, i.e. 17.2 per cent (see para. 6 above). This would result in the gross salary being set at \$163,300 (rather than at \$177,315 which would result from the application of the current methodology). The consequential effect on the maximum retirement allowance would be an increase from the current amount of \$69,650 to \$81,650. The latter amount would be payable to one former Secretary-General and the benefit payable to the widow of another former Secretary-General would also increase proportionately from \$34,825 to \$40,825 with effect from 1 January 1985.

10. In summary, the Advisory Committee recommends that the emoluments for the Secretary-General should be revised as follows:

	<u>Before consolidation</u>		<u>After consolidation</u>	
	With dependants	Without dependants	With dependants	Without dependants
	<u>United States dollars</u>			
Gross salary	139 300	139 300	163 300 <u>a/</u>	163 300 <u>a/</u>
Net salary	72 516	65 112	85 000	74 621
Post adjustment (per index point)	595 <u>b/</u>	534 <u>b/</u>	695 <u>b/</u>	613 <u>b/</u>

a/ Obtained by increasing the gross salary by the same percentage as the increase in the net salary, at the "with dependants" rate; consequently, the difference between the gross and net salaries does not reflect the staff assessment amounts corresponding to the gross salary figure.

b/ See paragraph 6 above for current post adjustment totals.

Emoluments of the Director-General for Development and International
Economic Co-operation and the Administrator of the United Nations
Development Programme

11. In line with past procedure (see para. 4 above), the Advisory Committee also recommends that 20 points of post adjustment be consolidated into the base salaries of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, with the following result:

	<u>Before consolidation</u>		<u>After consolidation</u>	
	<u>With</u> <u>dependants</u>	<u>Without</u> <u>dependants</u>	<u>With</u> <u>dependants</u>	<u>Without</u> <u>dependants</u>
	<u>United States dollars</u>			
(a) Gross salary	125 400	125 400	159 115	159 115
(b) Net salary	66 817	60 177	78 430	69 334
(c) Post adjustment:				
(i) per index point	550	496	644	573
(ii) amount <u>a/</u> (mult. 71)	<u>39 050</u>	<u>35 216</u>	(mult. 43) <u>27 692</u>	<u>24 639</u>
Total <u>a/</u> (b) + (c) (ii)	105 867	95 393	106 122	93 973

a/ Current amounts for illustrative purposes only.

12. The current levels of pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of UNDP and the Director-General have been determined by application of the same adjustment procedures in effect for staff in the Professional and higher categories. Since 1 October 1982, the pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional and higher categories has been 37.3 per cent higher than the gross salary and, therefore, the current pensionable remuneration of these two officials stands at \$172,174. Should the General Assembly approve application of the 5.4 per cent increase due as from 1 October 1984, the pensionable remuneration would, under the present formula, increase to \$181,470.

13. By extrapolation from table 2 following paragraph 39 of the report of the Commission, 2/ the Advisory Committee recommends that, should the General Assembly approve the scale of pensionable remuneration for the Professional and higher categories contained in annex VI to the report of ICSC, pensionable remuneration for the Administrator of UNDP and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation be established, as from 1 January 1985, at \$143,400. 5/

Financial implications

14. Due to the rounding of the post adjustment index after consolidation, there would be a minor and temporary increase of \$124 per annum in the net remuneration of the Secretary-General (see para. 6 above).
15. The increase in the gross salary from \$139,300 to \$163,300 recommended in paragraph 10 above would result in an increased expenditure of \$11,500 for staff assessment under section 31, offset by an equivalent amount in income from staff assessment under income section 1. The consequent increase in the maximum retirement allowance would result in a total additional cost, of the two pension benefits currently in payment, of \$18,000 in 1985, under section 1 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.
16. As regards the change in salaries of the Administrator of UNDP and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation (see para. 11 above), there would be temporary minor increases in their net remuneration (\$255 per annum) due to the consolidation.
17. Should there be a reduction in the pensionable remuneration of the Director-General to the amount recommended in paragraph 13 above, the resulting savings in the Organization's contribution to the Pension Fund, under section 5A of the programme budget, is estimated at \$5,000 for 1984-1985 on the assumption that the pensionable remuneration would be increased from \$172,174 to \$181,470 on 1 October 1984 and then decreased to \$143,400 on 1 January 1985. There would also be an increased expenditure of \$22,100 for staff assessment under section 31, to be offset by an increase in the same amount in income from staff assessment under income section 1.
18. The Advisory Committee believes that the financial implications outlined in paragraphs 14 to 17 above need not give rise to any additional appropriation for 1984-1985.
19. A draft resolution embodying the Advisory Committee's recommendations is annexed to the present report.

Notes

- 1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/35/7 and Add.1-32), document A/35/7/Add.30.
- 2/ Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/39/30 and Corr.1 and 2).
- 3/ Ibid., Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/31/8 and Add.1-26), document A/31/8/Add.24, para. 7.
- 4/ According to the formula applied heretofore, the gross salary of the Secretary-General would increase from \$139,300 to \$177,315. This in turn would lead to a consequential increase in the maximum annual retirement allowance from \$69,650 to \$88,657.50. Such an increase would apply to one former Secretary-General as from 1 January 1985, while the pension currently payable to the widow of another former Secretary-General would also increase, as from the same date, from \$34,825 to \$44,328.75.

- 5/ This compares with a proposed pensionable remuneration of \$115,700 for an Under-Secretary-General (see table 3 following paragraph 45 of the report of ICSC).

ANNEX

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Emoluments of the Secretary-General, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the emoluments of the Secretary-General, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (A/39/7/Add.16),

1. Concurs with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the emoluments of the Secretary-General, contained in paragraph 10 of its report;
2. Also concurs with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the emoluments, including the level of pensionable remuneration, of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, contained in paragraphs 11 and 13 of its report;
3. Approves the amendment to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, with effect from 1 January 1985, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

ANNEX

Amendment to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

Annex I

SALARY SCALES AND RELATED PROVISIONS

In paragraph 1, the salary figure for the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation shall read \$US 159,115.

Annex

REPORTS PRESENTED ORALLY BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS AT
MEETINGS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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Revised estimates under section 29A (Chinese as a working language
of the General Assembly and the Security Council)

1. At the 9th meeting of the Fifth Committee, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recalled that the General Assembly had decided in resolution 3189 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973, that Chinese would be included among the working languages of the General Assembly and the Security Council. However, full services in Chinese had not yet been provided. At the Advisory Committee's spring session, the Secretary-General, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 38/237 of 20 December 1983, on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985, had requested and obtained the Advisory Committee's concurrence to enter into additional commitments in an amount not exceeding \$998,400, for the purpose of providing full services in Chinese in 1984. The Secretary-General's request had been for establishing, on a temporary basis, the nucleus of a Chinese Verbatim Unit from 1 August to 31 December 1984. The Secretary-General also requested commitment authority for temporary assistance resources equivalent to 24 posts for the period from 1 October to 31 December 1984 in order to ensure the provision of Chinese verbatim records during the General Assembly session (see document A/39/7, sect. F, above).
2. In his report (A/C.5/39/12), the Secretary-General requested that the staff resources authorized by the Advisory Committee for 1984 should be approved for 1985. The Advisory Committee had no objection to the request and accordingly recommended an additional appropriation of \$1,114,400 under section 29A (Department of Conference Services, Headquarters) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 as well as an amount of \$137,000 under section 31 (Staff assessment) to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).
3. The Advisory Committee would consider the question of restructuring the Chinese language services when related proposals were submitted to it by the Secretary-General (see A/C.5/39/SR.9, paras. 59-61).

International Computing Centre: 1985 budget estimates

4. At the 26th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the 1985 budget estimates of the International Computing Centre (ICC), Geneva, based on an exchange rate of 2.18 Swiss francs to the dollar, amounted to \$5,691,500. The Advisory Committee had reviewed the estimates submitted in document A/C.5/39/14 and was recommending approval of the ICC budget. The United Nations' share of the ICC budget, \$1,691,700, would be met from the resources appropriated under section 28G of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.26, para. 43).

Revision of the Financial Rules in the light of the restructuring
of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations

5. At the 54th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session had noted the intention of the Secretary-General to issue revisions to the Financial Rules and to submit them to the Assembly through the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee had received document A/C.5/39/21 and had had an exchange of views with the Controller on 23 October 1984. The corrections in document A/C.5/39/21/Corr.1, reflected in

large measure the results of the Advisory Committee's suggestions with regard to a number of points which, in its view, required clarifications. Those documents were now before the Fifth Committee, which might take note of them or provide further guidance, as it deemed appropriate (see A/C.5/39/SR.54, para. 9).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.3, concerning agenda item 20*

6. At the 18th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that section I of the statement (A/C.5/39/28) submitted by the Secretary-General related to the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea. On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the General Assembly, at its thirty-eighth session, had approved an appropriation of \$152,000 for that purpose. An appropriation of \$170,400 was now being requested, the slight increase resulting from the fact that some items of expenditure indicated in paragraph 13 of the statement, in particular travel of staff on official business, had been underestimated in the request submitted to the thirty-eighth session. Moreover, salary and common staff costs for the Ad Hoc Committee and for co-ordinating the programme of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people had been estimated the preceding year on the basis of a delayed recruitment factor of 25 per cent, instead of the usual factor of 5 per cent which had been applied to the current year. Bearing those facts in mind, the Advisory Committee had no objection to the request for an additional appropriation of \$170,400 under section 3 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

7. No appropriation was being requested at the current time for the International Conference on Kampuchea. In the event that the Conference was convened, the Secretary-General would seek the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into the necessary commitments in accordance with the resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985.

8. The activities planned to co-ordinate the programme of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people would require an additional appropriation of \$373,400, as compared with the \$259,000 approved for the preceding year. That increase was likewise attributable to higher salaries and common staff costs. In addition, the Advisory Committee had been informed that the Office of the Special Representative would be transferred from New York to Bangkok.

9. Document A/C.5/39/28 was the first statement of programme budget implications to be submitted to the Fifth Committee. At first sight, it seemed that the new type of statement would be much longer than previous statements of financial implications. However, the Secretariat should not be blamed for that, since programme budget implication statements were bound to include more information. The Fifth Committee should express its views on the subject and state whether the format of the statement of programme budget implications before it was satisfactory.

10. Pointing out that paragraph 33 of document A/C.5/39/28 contained a breakdown of the additional appropriations which would be required should draft resolution A/39/L.3 be adopted, the Chairman said that the Advisory Committee was recommending

* The situation in Kampuchea.

approval of an amount of \$170,400 under section 3B of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and \$373,400 under section 3E. An additional appropriation of \$99,700 would also be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment) (see A/C.5/39/SR.18, paras. 39-43).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted
by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/655, para. 14),
concerning agenda item 85*

11. At the 32nd meeting, after summarizing the main provisions of the draft resolution, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee reported on the statement (A/C.5/39/30) of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General.
12. In paragraphs 13 to 18 of that statement, the Secretary-General outlined the activities which would be undertaken if the Third Committee's recommendations were approved by the General Assembly. In paragraph 20 of the statement, the Secretary-General stated that no modifications would be required in the approved programme of work for 1985. In paragraphs 21 to 24, he described the additional requirements which would arise and indicated the amounts which would be needed for consultant services, travel on official business and conference-servicing.
13. Costs for travel on official business would arise under sections 6, 8, 11 to 14 and 27 of the programme budget. In paragraph 25 of the statement, the Secretary-General indicated that it might be possible to meet the costs of travel on official business and consultant services (\$70,800) without requesting additional appropriations for the time being.
14. Conference-servicing costs not exceeding \$196,300 would arise under section 29 of the programme budget and would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the thirty-ninth session. a/
15. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee also drew the attention of the Fifth Committee to paragraph 16 of the Secretary-General's statement, where it was indicated that the General Assembly already had a very heavy programme of work and that, with each passing year, it was becoming more difficult for the Assembly to deal adequately with all items on its agenda. It was, however, for the General Assembly to decide how many plenary meetings it wished to allocate for the United Nations World Conference for the International Youth Year (see A/C.5/39/SR.32, paras. 14-18).

* International Youth Year: Participation, Development, Peace.

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Special Political Committee in its report (A/39/621, para. 12), concerning agenda item 76*

16. At the 26th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the estimate of \$66,600 referred to in paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/31), was intended to cover the cost of experts from the least developed countries who would participate in the work of the Group of Governmental Experts on International Co-operation to Avert New Flows of Refugees, whose mandate would be extended if the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution. At the thirty-eighth session, the Fifth Committee had accepted the Advisory Committee's recommendation that the Secretary-General should be authorized to incur the necessary expenditures on the understanding that he would include the relevant information in his programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985. The Advisory Committee was recommending that the same procedure should be followed with regard to the request for \$66,600, and that the related conference-servicing costs, estimated on a full-cost basis at \$339,100, should be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly later in the current session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.26, para. 40).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.10/Rev.1, concerning agenda item 23**

17. At the 22nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that by the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.10/Rev.1, the General Assembly would, inter alia, reaffirm the recommendation contained in General Assembly resolution 38/6 that another sectoral meeting on social development should be organized in April 1985, under the aegis of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States. The Secretary-General would be requested to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General of the League concerning the organization of the meeting.

18. The statement (A/C.5/39/32) of programme budget implications of the draft resolution under consideration indicated, in the section on additional requirements, that the travel and subsistence costs of the United Nations substantive staff attending the meeting were estimated at \$6,300. That amount could be absorbed under section 1B.5 (Office of Special Political Questions (including the Unit for Special Economic Assistance Programmes): Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. Conference-servicing costs were estimated at \$41,400, and would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs for 1985 to be submitted to the General Assembly during the thirty-ninth session. a/

19. Accordingly, the Fifth Committee might wish to inform the General Assembly that should it adopt the draft resolution in question, conference-servicing

* International co-operation to avert new flows of refugees.

** Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

requirements, estimated on a full-cost basis at \$41,400, would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted during the thirty-ninth session.

20. Finally, with reference to the annex to document A/C.5/39/32, conference-servicing staff included two typists as well as four interpreters and three revisers. That correction did not affect the figure for estimated costs (see A/C.5/39/SR.22, paras. 53-56).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained
in document A/39/L.11, concerning agenda item 28*

21. At the 25th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Committee had studied the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/34) of programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.11. The Advisory Committee had been informed that as of September 1984, \$105,600 out of the 1984 appropriation of \$107,400 had been spent on the rental of an airplane for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and on staff travel and miscellaneous expenses. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee had no objection to the request for an appropriation of \$110,200 for 1985 under section 1 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.25, para. 37).

Revised estimates under section 28G (Electronic Data Processing
and Information Systems Division: Advisory Committee for the
Co-ordination of Information Systems (United Nations share))

22. At the 35th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee explained that the General Assembly had approved an appropriation of \$1,306,000 for the Advisory Committee for the Co-ordination of Information Systems (ACCIS) for the biennium 1984-1985, the United Nations share of which had been 43 per cent or \$561,600. Of that \$561,600, the Advisory Committee had already approved an amount of \$273,400 in its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, b/ leaving a balance of \$288,200. At the thirty-eighth session, however, the Secretary-General had indicated that no additional appropriation would be required to cover that balance, since expenditures during the previous biennium had been below the approved estimates. According to the latest estimates submitted in document A/C.5/39/35, ACCIS requirements for the 1984-1985 biennium would total \$960,000, of which the United Nations share would be \$412,600. Since \$273,400 had already been approved, that left a balance of \$139,200. The Secretary-General was requesting an additional appropriation to cover that balance. Yet, according to information available to the Advisory Committee, inflation at Geneva had been lower than the initial assumed rate of 5.5 per cent and the dollar had been quite strong, with the result that there appeared to be less justification for requesting an additional appropriation at the current session than there had been at the thirty-eighth session, when the Secretary-General had in fact said that no additional appropriation was required. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee was proposing that the revised estimates for ACCIS should be approved but that no additional appropriations under section 28G of the programme budget should be

* The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security.

authorized at the thirty-ninth session. If that created problems, the Secretary-General could always raise the matter in the context of the final programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985, to be submitted to the General Assembly at the fortieth session (see A/C.5/39/SR.35, para. 20).

Compensation in the event of death, injury or illness attributable to service with the United Nations and health insurance for members of commissions, committees and similar bodies

23. At the 35th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee recalled that, by its resolution 34/233, section VI, of 20 December 1979, the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to review the scale of compensation in the event of death, injury or illness attributable to service with the United Nations at least once every four years, in the light of inflation and currency fluctuations, and to examine the feasibility of providing insurance coverage for members of commissions, committees or similar bodies. The results of the review of the scale of compensation and the Secretary-General's proposals in that regard were reproduced in paragraph 6 of document A/C.5/39/36, while paragraphs 9 to 14 of that document contained the Secretary-General's findings with regard to health insurance. On the basis of that document and information provided by the representatives of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee supported the Secretary-General's recommendations (see A/C.5/39/SR.35, para. 23).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/654, para. 9), concerning agenda item 84*

24. At the 32nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, under the draft resolution in question, the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities would be invited to continue to update the list of organizations assisting the racist and colonialist régime of South Africa; the Secretary-General would be invited to give the updated report the widest dissemination and to issue it as a United Nations publication.

25. In paragraph 10 of his statement (A/C.5/39/37), the Secretary-General estimated at \$58,200, on a full-cost basis, the additional requirements for carrying out the activities requested in the draft resolution. Part of that amount could be absorbed within the resources already appropriated, but an additional appropriation of \$36,800 was being requested for translation and printing. According to the information provided by the representatives of the Secretary-General, that amount would be used to cover the costs of contractual translation and printing for the Arabic, the Chinese and possibly the Russian version of the report.

26. As indicated in General Assembly resolution 38/236 A, paragraph 3, of 20 December 1983, the net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing was to be administered as a unit under the direction of

* Adverse consequences for the enjoyment of human rights of political, military, economic and other forms of assistance given to the racist and colonialist régime of South Africa.

the United Nations Publications Board. Accordingly, even if an appropriation of \$36,800 was requested under section 23 of the programme budget, that did not necessarily mean that it would all be allocated specifically for contractual printing under that section. Since appropriations for contractual printing were administered centrally, transfers would be made between sections where there was under-expenditure and those where there was over-expenditure.

27. Consequently, the Advisory Committee was recommending that the Secretary-General should be authorized to enter into the necessary commitments to implement the provisions of the draft resolution in question. It considered that no additional appropriation would be required at the thirty-ninth session. Should additional resources be required at a later stage, the Secretary-General could raise the matter in his final programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.32, paras. 48-51).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/656, para. 8),
concerning agenda item 86*

28. At the 32nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee drew attention to a typographical error in paragraph 12 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/38) where, in subparagraph (a) (iii), "240" should be replaced by "24". The Secretary-General was not requesting any additional appropriations in that statement (see A/C.5/39/SR.32, para. 58).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/661, para. 11),
concerning agenda item 91**

29. At the 32nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the main proposal contained in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/40) was for the continuation of a temporary post at the P-3 level in the subprogramme on disabled persons up to the end of the biennium 1984-1985.

30. In that connection, he reminded the Fifth Committee that, in paragraph 6.J⁵ of its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, of the Advisory Committee had approved the continuation of that post for one year only and had specifically stated in paragraph 6.15 of its report that the P-3 post, which had originally been authorized in connection with the International Year of Disabled Persons, had been retained in the programme budget pending the result of an Administrative Management Service study on the staffing resources of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. However, the Advisory Committee had not yet received the results of that study. The Advisory Committee did not believe it was necessary, on the basis of the information provided in document A/C.5/39/40, to modify the position it had taken the preceding year. It was not,

* Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

** Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons.

therefore, in a position to recommend approval of the additional appropriation of \$48,800 requested under section 6 of the programme budget (see A/C.5/39/SR.32, paras. 62 and 63).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.10, para. 17), concerning agenda item 80 (j)*

31. At the 36th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in the draft resolution under consideration, the Secretary-General was requested to organize, in 1985, a five-day seminar on remedies for the deterioration of the economy of the occupied Palestinian territories. Experts and representatives of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations would be invited to take part in the seminar.

32. In document A/C.5/39/41, the Secretary-General gave an estimate of the costs of holding the seminar at Nairobi, where the headquarters of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was located. He also indicated the costs which would be incurred if, because of practical and political considerations, the seminar was to be held at Vienna.

33. In its observations (A/C.5/39/41/Add.1), the Committee on Conferences had indicated that the choice of Vienna as a venue for the seminar would represent a departure from the provisions of General Assembly resolution 31/140, section I, paragraph 4, of 17 December 1976. Nevertheless, in view of the exceptional circumstances surrounding the proposed seminar, that Committee had decided to consent to the departure. Accordingly, the seminar would be held at Vienna, and the related costs (travel and subsistence costs for the participants and fees for one consultant) were estimated at \$36,200.

34. The Advisory Committee was recommending the approval of an additional appropriation of \$36,200 under section 19 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. The amount of \$46,000 required for conference-servicing would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly at a later stage during the current session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.36, paras. 18-21).

Industrial Development Decade for Africa: proposals to reimburse \$1 million drawn from savings in the programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983 to initiate the activities called for in General Assembly resolution 38/192, section II

35. At the 35th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee recalled that the Secretary-General had been requested to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session, proposals to achieve the reimbursement of \$1 million through savings in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 or through redeployment. d/ In his report (A/C.5/39/42), the Secretary-General indicated that savings totalling \$127,100 under sections 17 and 28M of the programme budget for

* Development and international economic co-operation: Human settlements.

the biennium 1984-1985 (ibid., paras. 6 and 7) could be reported thus far. The Secretary-General could not indicate yet where the balance of \$872,900 would come from, but he would be able to do so by the end of the current biennium. The Advisory Committee endorsed the approach taken by the Secretary-General; since the budget was approved on a two-year basis, savings could not be reported unless it was certain that an activity would not be implemented in either year. Moreover, the representatives of the Secretary-General had informed the Advisory Committee that current forecasts gave every indication that the full amount would be available by the end of the biennium (see A/C.5/39/SR.35, para. 26).

Common services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

36. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's report on common services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/C.5/39/46) had been submitted in accordance with a recommendation e/ made by the Advisory Committee at the thirty-eighth session and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/234, section XXI, of 20 December 1983. At that time, the Secretary-General had indicated that an annual rental charge of \$96.88 per square metre should be established for users of the United Nations premises at Nairobi. That rate had not been agreed upon by the various users and the Advisory Committee had requested the Secretary-General to submit a further report once agreement had been reached. Paragraphs 6 and 7 of his report (A/C.5/39/46) reflected the outcome of the negotiations and indicated that the total rental charge had been revised to \$66 per square metre. Not all agencies had thus far consented in writing to that rate, but the Advisory Committee believed that the revised charge was not excessive and should be generally acceptable. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended approval of a reduction of \$341,700 in the estimates of income under income section 2 (General income) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.44, para. 13).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution K submitted by the
Special Political Committee in its report (A/39/715, para. 35),
concerning agenda item 75*

37. At the 41st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in his statement (A/C.5/39/47) on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution under consideration, the Secretary-General had estimated that \$30,000 would be required in 1985 for consultant services in connection with the proposed establishment of the university. After deducting the \$7,300 left over from the appropriation approved at the thirty-eighth session, the requirement for 1985 stood at \$22,700. The Secretary-General expected to be able to cover that amount from savings made in the implementation of the 1984-1985 programme budget and was therefore not requesting an additional appropriation (see A/C.5/39/SR.41, para. 38).

* United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East: University of Jerusalem "Al Quds" for Palestine Refugees.

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/703, para. 8),
concerning agenda item 94*

38. At the 41st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that document A/C.5/39/55 discussed the provision of summary records for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly, in resolution 38/32 E of 25 November 1983, had urged all treaty bodies to review their documentation requirements, with particular reference to the possible reduction of their need for summary records. It might be argued that that resolution was not applicable to CEDAW, which was not, at the time, in receipt of summary records. However, the Third Committee had recognized the importance of the summary records of bodies established to monitor the implementation of international human rights instruments and had authorized the provision and distribution of summary records of the meetings of the Committee. The Advisory Committee agreed that the nature of its work required some form of record of its meetings, but hoped that CEDAW would give due regard to the General Assembly's request to consider the possible reduction of its need for summary records.

39. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution in question, conference-servicing requirements, estimated on a full-cost basis at \$249,800, would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the Assembly during the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.41, paras. 45 and 46).

United Nations Office at Nairobi

40. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that annex II to the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/C.5/39/61) indicated the status of appropriated funds from 1978 to 1984. Total appropriations, as shown in footnote b of the annex, amounted to \$27,078,200. The Secretary-General had requested that \$415,000 out of the remaining balance of \$843,562 should be used for the activities listed in paragraph 10 of his report. The Advisory Committee had met with representatives of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to discuss the reasons for the request, and had been satisfied that the proposed activities were essential and should be completed shortly, rather than at a later stage when costs would probably be higher (see A/C.5/39/SR.44, para. 27).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution II submitted
by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/709, para. 12),
concerning agenda item 100**

41. At the 41st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the statement (A/C.5/39/63) of programme budget implications of the draft resolution under consideration related essentially to the decision of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to include

* Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Arabic, Chinese and Spanish among the official languages of the Executive Committee. That decision would give rise to conference-servicing requirements estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$347,400 at 1985 rates. The actual additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly during the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.41, para. 52).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution V submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.3, para. 41), concerning agenda item 80 (c)*

42. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships would hold a resumed three-week session at Geneva in January and February 1985. According to the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/65), the session would be added to the calendar of conferences for 1985, resulting in conference-servicing costs estimated at \$448,600. The actual additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly during the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 13).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution III submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/710, para. 16), concerning agenda item 101**

43. At the 43rd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in his statement (A/C.5/39/66), the Secretary-General had indicated that the provisions of paragraph 11 of the draft resolution would be implemented with extrabudgetary financing. The proposed meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies requested in paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, would involve conference-servicing costs not exceeding \$169,000, to be considered by the Assembly at its fortieth session. There would be no additional appropriations for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.43, para. 30).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/39/752, para. 8), concerning agenda item 62***

44. At the 41st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the adoption of the draft resolution under consideration would give rise to conference-servicing requirements which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$1,732,700, as indicated in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/67).

* Development and international economic co-operation - Trade and development: United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships.

** International campaign against traffic in drugs.

*** Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly during the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.41, para. 62).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Sixth Committee in its report (A/39/776, para. 11), concerning agenda item 126*

45. At the 41st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/68) indicated that conference-servicing requirements arising from the adoption of the draft resolution were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$430,800. Additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly during the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.41, para. 65).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution D submitted by the Special Political Committee in its report (A/39/712, para. 26), concerning agenda item 71**

46. At the 43rd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that an amount of \$249,900 had been appropriated for 1984 by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session. Total expenditure for 1984 had subsequently been estimated at \$236,493. A request for an additional appropriation of \$237,300 for 1985, under section 23 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, had been made in the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/69) of programme budget implications, with which the Advisory Committee concurred. An additional appropriation of \$31,800 would be required under section 31 (Staff assessment) to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment). Estimated conference-servicing requirements of \$391,700 would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly during the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.43, para. 33).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/700, para. 69), concerning agenda item 12***

47. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the resolution under consideration would authorize the Working Group on the Drafting of an International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Their Families to hold an inter-sessional meeting of two weeks' duration in

* Report of the Special Committee on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Principle of Non-Use of Force in International Relations.

** Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories.

*** Report of the Economic and Social Council: Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers.

New York. The Secretary-General had indicated, in paragraph 11 of his statement (A/C.5/39/71) of programme budget implications, that conference-servicing requirements, estimated on a full-cost basis, would amount to \$456,400 if the inter-sessional meeting was held in Geneva and the sessional meeting in New York; if both sessions were held in New York conference costs would be \$537,600. In the latter case an amount of \$3,700 would be required for travel of staff from Geneva to New York, but would be absorbed. Actual conference-servicing requirements would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly during its thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 16).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution II submitted
by the Third Committee in its report (A/39/700, para. 69),
concerning agenda item 12*

48. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the draft resolution under consideration proposed the establishment of an open-ended working group, at the General Assembly's fortieth session, for the purpose of concluding the elaboration of the draft declaration on the human rights of individuals who are not citizens of the country in which they live. The Secretary-General indicated in his statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/72) that the related conference-servicing requirements were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$147,700. Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of the current session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.44, para. 16).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained
in document A/39/L.35, concerning agenda item 34**

49. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/73 and Corr.1) concerned the servicing of the Preparatory Commission for the International Sea-Bed Authority and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea. The Preparatory Commission had scheduled two sessions for 1985. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's statement, resources for servicing the regular session of the Preparatory Commission, to be held at Kingston, Jamaica, from 11 March to 4 April 1985, had already been provided for in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. No budgetary provision had been made, however, for servicing the four-week summer session to be held, depending on the decision taken at the regular session, at Geneva, at Kingston or in New York. As noted in paragraph 5 and table 1 of his statement, the related conference-servicing costs were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$1,096,400 for Geneva and \$1,580,300 for Kingston or New York. Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of the current session. a/

* Report of the Economic and Social Council: Question of the international legal protection of the human rights of individuals who are not citizens of the country in which they live.

** Law of the sea.

50. Non-conference-servicing costs, which would also depend on the venue, were indicated in table 2 of the statement. The additional cost was estimated at \$145,200 for Geneva, \$439,900 for Kingston and \$44,700 for New York. In paragraph 7 of his statement, the Secretary-General requested a maximum additional appropriation of \$439,900. If the decision of the Preparatory Commission regarding the venue of the summer meeting subsequently entailed a lower level of expenditure, the unexpended amount would be reported in the context of the final programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985.

51. The Advisory Committee concurred with the need for an additional appropriation for non-conference-servicing requirements. Its examination of the elements included in the estimated non-conference-servicing costs had left it unconvinced of the full need for two amounts: \$72,000 for general temporary assistance to cover the cost of 75 short-term local employees, and \$186,800 for travel and subsistence costs of 49 substantive staff, 7 more than previously budgeted for. In the light of the additional information provided on their proposed functions, the Advisory Committee questioned the need for the attendance of so large a number. The figure included four staff members from the Office of Personnel Services and four from the Security Service, to interview and process the recruitment of short-term employees and to supervise the security arrangements for the session, respectively. The Advisory Committee accordingly recommended a reduction of \$69,900 in the sum proposed, and an additional appropriation of \$370,000 under section 2A.C of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.47, paras. 26-28).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the First Committee in its report (A/39/743, para. 9),
concerning agenda item 53*

52. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the report called for in the draft resolution under consideration would be prepared by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. For that purpose, a contribution would be required from the regular budget. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended approval of an additional appropriation in the amount of \$43,500 under section 2B.C of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 as requested in paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/74) (see A/C.5/39/SR.44, para. 19).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolutions contained
in documents A/39/L.28-32, concerning agenda item 31**

53. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Committee was recommending an additional appropriation of \$587,500 under section 3A of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, as requested by the Secretary-General in paragraph 29 of his statement (A/C.5/39/75) (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 19).

* Israeli nuclear armament.

** Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa.

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.16, para. 10),
concerning agenda item 80 (p)*

54. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that adoption of the draft resolution under consideration would result in the preparation of two additional reports, as indicated in paragraph 9 of the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/77). No additional appropriations would be required (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 24).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the Sixth Committee in its report (A/39/777, para. 11),
concerning agenda item 129**

55. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the draft resolution under consideration would authorize the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries to hold a four-week session in April and May 1985. In the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/78), conference-servicing requirements had been estimated at \$429,300. Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 27).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A submitted
by the Sixth Committee in its report (A/39/781, para. 12),
concerning agenda item 133***

56. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization would hold a four-week session in New York in March 1985. Conference-servicing requirements had been estimated at \$452,700 by the Secretary-General in his statement (A/C.5/39/79). Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 30).

* Development and international economic co-operation: Development of the energy resources of developing countries.

** Report of the Ad hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries.

*** Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Special Political Committee in its report (A/39/716, para. 9), concerning agenda item 77*

57. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General had estimated requirements at \$54,000 in his statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/81). The Advisory Committee had recommended an amount of \$50,000 at the thirty-eighth session, of which an unused balance of \$27,500 remained. Thus an additional amount of \$26,500 for 1985 was requested by the Secretary-General. The Advisory Committee had taken the view that the Secretary-General should commit the necessary funds and report back to the Fifth Committee in the final programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee was not recommending any additional appropriation for the time being (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 33).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/39/759, para. 9), concerning agenda item 69**

58. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the draft resolution requested the establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on the Implementation of the Collective Security Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security. The Committee would comprise 54 Member States and would have a three-week session in New York in 1985, from 29 July to 16 August. The statement of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/82) indicated that conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated at \$456,700. Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 40).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.26, concerning agenda item 35***

59. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, by operative paragraphs 5 and 6 of the draft resolution contained in document A/39/L.26, the General Assembly would decide that the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy should hold its sixth session at Vienna from 21 October to 1 November 1985 and that the Conference itself should be held at Geneva from 10 to 28 November 1986. The Secretary-General's statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/84) provided detailed information on the estimated

* Israel's decision to build a canal linking the Mediterranean Sea to the Dead Sea.

** Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security.

*** United Nations Conference for the Promotion of International Co-operation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy.

costs of preparatory activities, while indicating that a number of changes had been made in the assumptions relating to the convening of the Conference. For example, its duration had been extended from two to three weeks, documentation had been increased, and the standard rates for salaries, common staff costs and conference-servicing requirements had been updated. At the same time, alternate arrangements for technical servicing would be made, and the number of Department of Public Information staff members from New York who would service the Conference had been reduced. Accordingly, no additional appropriation was being requested to cover the estimated requirement of \$16,100 in 1985 which could be absorbed, as indicated in paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's statement. Conference-servicing requirements for 1985 were estimated at \$689,600 and requests for any additional appropriations would be submitted to the General Assembly at a later stage during the thirty-ninth session in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs. a/ Additional requirements for 1986 were estimated at \$212,200, which amount would be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987. Conference-servicing requirements for 1986 estimated at \$2,028,700 would be submitted to the General Assembly at its fortieth session in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs for 1986.

60. The Advisory Committee commended the Secretary-General of the Conference for his sound management of resources intended for the preparatory phase and welcomed his assurances that every effort was being made to achieve further economies. It also encouraged the Secretariat, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Conference, to reappraise conference-servicing requirements for 1986 with a view to achieving additional economies without affecting quality of service (see A/C.5/39/SR.47, paras. 43 and 44).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted
by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.2, para. 7),
concerning agenda item 80 (b)*

61. At the 45th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that by the draft resolution under consideration, the General Assembly would decide to undertake a thorough and systematic review of the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States and would decide also to establish an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole, which would meet in New York from 12 to 30 August 1985 and would report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session. The Secretary-General indicated in paragraph 11 of his statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/85) that six consultant work-months and eight Professional work-months would be needed for the proposed activity. No additional appropriations would be required under the programme budget for the current biennium. The estimated costs of conference-servicing amounted to \$319,800. Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.45, para. 45).

* Development and international economic co-operation: Review of the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A submitted by the
Special Political Committee in its report (A/39/714, para. 15),
concerning agenda item 74*

62. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee drew attention to the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/86) of the recommendations of the Committee on Information. In section C of the statement, the Secretary-General had submitted estimates amounting to \$661,100, on a full-cost basis. The greatest cost element (\$569,600) related to the possible establishment of information centres in two States Members of the Organization - a matter on which the Secretary-General had been requested to report to the General Assembly at its fortieth session. For that and other reasons explained in section D, the Secretary-General indicated in paragraph 38, that no additional appropriations were being requested for 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.49, para. 2).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted by
the Second Committee in its report (A/39/789/Add.1, para. 22),
concerning agenda item 12**

63. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the draft resolution concerned the updating and annual issuing of the consolidated list of products whose consumption and/or sale had been banned, withdrawn, severely restricted or, in the case of pharmaceuticals, not approved by Governments. On the basis of the request contained in the draft resolution and the assumptions outlined in paragraphs 13 to 18 of his statement (A/C.5/39/89), the Secretary-General was submitting estimates for 1985 totalling \$271,000 on a full-cost basis, of which an amount of \$160,300 for publishing and distributing the consolidated list would be absorbed. The remaining amount of \$110,700 was for staffing, travel, equipment and consultant services required for substantive work, including \$59,400 for two new regular budget posts (1 P-5 and 1 G-5). Since \$21,000 could be absorbed (*ibid.*, para. 24), the Secretary-General was requesting an additional appropriation of \$89,700. For the reasons stated in paragraph 21 of the statement, and in the light of additional clarifications given by the Secretary-General's representatives, the Advisory Committee agreed with the recommendation for an additional appropriation of \$89,700, of which \$68,700 would be under section 6 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and \$21,000 under section 18. An additional appropriation of \$14,600 would be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment) (see A/C.5/39/SR.49, para. 15).

* Questions relating to information.

** Report of the Economic and Social Council: Protection against products harmful to health and environment.

Programme budget implications of the draft decision submitted by
the Second Committee in its report (A/39/789/Add.1, para. 23),
concerning agenda item 12*

64. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, by adopting the draft decision under consideration, the General Assembly would decide that the special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations would reconvene for one week in 1985. The Secretary-General had indicated in his statement (A/C.5/39/90) that that would give rise to conference-servicing costs amounting to \$297,700. Actual additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of the thirty-ninth session a/ (see A/C.5/39/SR.49, para. 23).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution II submitted by
the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.4, para. 28),
concerning agenda item 80 (d)**

65. At the 52nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/91) concerning the programme budget implications of the draft resolution under consideration indicated that, in order to implement the proposed activities, additional resources would be required to finance in 1985 the cost of nine Senior Industrial Development Field Adviser posts already approved for 1984 under the United Nations regular budget. The estimated costs of those posts in 1985, including their support costs, amounted to \$1,135,000. The Advisory Committee had no objection to the request for an additional appropriation and agreed that an amount of \$238,500 for staff assessment would also be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by a credit in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment) (see A/C.5/39/SR.52, para. 33).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted by
the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.4, para. 28),
concerning agenda item 80 (d)***

66. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/92) dealt with the programme budget implications of the draft resolution concerning the requirements for servicing the first General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) after its conversion into a specialized agency. On the assumption that the Conference would be held at Vienna in two parts, for a total duration of no more

* Report of the Economic and Social Council: Reconvened special session of the Commission on Transnational Corporations.

** Development and international economic co-operation - Industrialization: Industrial development co-operation.

*** Development and international economic co-operation - Industrialization: Conversion of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization into a specialized agency.

than 13 working days, the Secretary-General estimated that an additional \$1,034,100 would be required. Of that amount, \$924,500 would cover temporary assistance for meetings and the remaining \$109,600 would cover various administrative support costs. With regard to temporary assistance for meetings, the Advisory Committee recalled that temporary assistance resources for meetings amounting to \$3,167,000 for 1984-1985 had been included under section 17 of the programme budget for servicing the policy-making organs of UNIDO, consultation meetings, expert groups and other meetings. Moreover, the UNIDO conference-servicing establishment included 4 interpreters and 34 translators. Although representatives of the Executive Director had informed the Advisory Committee that a good part of the \$3.2 million had been spent in 1984, the Advisory Committee doubted whether the entire amount would be spent. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee did not feel that the full amount requested in paragraph 6 (a) of document A/C.5/39/92 was justified and recommended that the amount be reduced by \$24,500, to \$900,000. The Advisory Committee did not object to the estimates for travel of representatives and hospitality, but it was not convinced of the need for additional appropriations to cover the various administrative costs contained in paragraph 6 (b) of the statement. It therefore recommended that those costs should be absorbed, with a consequential reduction of the request by \$83,600. The Advisory Committee recommended a total additional appropriation of \$926,000 under section 17 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 instead of the \$1,034,100 proposed by the Secretary-General (see A/C.5/39/SR.49, para. 26).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution II submitted by
the Second Committee in its report (A/39/789/Add.1, para. 22),
concerning agenda item 12*

67. At the 53rd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in his statement (A/C.5/39/93) of programme budget implications of the draft resolution under consideration, the Secretary-General was proposing that financial resources should be provided from the regular budget to enable the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to implement fully activities requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 38/150 of 19 December 1983 concerning the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. The resources requested would also finance additional activities called for in the draft resolution. A detailed account of the programme of work for the implementation of resolution 38/150 had been submitted by the Secretary-General in document A/39/223. The status of implementation as at 1 November 1984 was described in annexes 1 and 2 to document A/C.5/39/93. For the reasons given in paragraphs 9 to 14 of the Secretary-General's statement, an additional appropriation of \$1,439,600 was being requested for 1985.

68. Paragraph 15 of document A/39/271-E/1984/98, dealing with the implementation of the programme for the Decade, informed the General Assembly that for the second-phase programme 1,053 projects were involved, costing \$18 billion 360 million. In paragraph 19 of that document the Secretary-General indicated that the African countries had already secured or were about to secure approximately \$4.3 billion of that total. Some countries were financing most or all of the projects themselves. He quoted those figures to put into perspective the amount being requested by the Secretary-General, which represented the kind of programme support which would

* Report of the Economic and Social Council: Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

enable ECA to convene consultative meetings and organize studies on how projects should be formulated and implemented. In that light the Advisory Committee had no hesitation in recommending acceptance of the Secretary-General's request for \$1,439,600 under section 13 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.53, paras. 23 and 24).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution III submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.4, para. 28), concerning agenda item 80 (d)*

69. At the 53rd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/94) concerned the implementation of the draft resolution on the Industrial Development Decade for Africa. Pursuant to the draft resolution, an allocation of at least \$5 million would be made from the regular budget in order to enable the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to assist African countries to implement the programme of the Decade. The activities to be undertaken in pursuance of the draft resolution were described in paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's statement. In paragraph 18 of the statement, the Secretary-General proposed that the UNIDO Co-ordination Unit for the Decade should be strengthened through the addition of one P-4 and two General Service posts at a cost of \$135,300. The Advisory Committee had been informed orally by representatives of the Executive Director of UNIDO that that Unit currently had one P-5, one P-3 and one General Service post. Substantive responsibility for activities in connection with the Decade, however, rested with the Division of Industrial Operations. The Committee had sought additional information regarding the level of resources being disbursed by UNIDO in relation to the Decade and had been informed that they amounted to approximately \$36 million, from both the regular budget (sects. 17 and 24) and from extrabudgetary sources. The Committee considered that if the Unit was currently able to co-ordinate programmes costing approximately \$36 million, an additional \$5 million did not warrant the creation of three additional posts at UNIDO headquarters at Vienna, while most of the programme of work was being carried out in Africa. Therefore, the Committee did not recommend acceptance of the additional posts requested by the Secretary-General. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommended that if the draft resolution was adopted, the amount to be appropriated would be the \$5 million referred to in the draft resolution (see A/C.5/39/SR.53, para. 28).

Programme budget implications of the draft decision submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/790/Add.5, para. 12), concerning agenda item 80 (e)**

70. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/95) dealt with the programme budget implications of the draft decision under consideration which would establish an

* Development and international economic co-operation - Industrialization: Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

** Development and international economic co-operation - Science and technology for development: Long-term financial and institutional arrangements for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development.

informal open-ended intergovernmental working group to permit a broad exchange of views on ways and means to facilitate the bringing into effect of the long-term financial and institutional arrangements for the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. For the reasons stated in paragraph 7 of his statement, the Secretary-General was not requesting additional appropriations for conference-servicing requirements estimated at \$131,200. With regard to the proposal in subparagraph (c) of the draft decision, the Secretary-General explained, in paragraph 6 of his statement, the procedure he intended to follow (see A/C.5/39/SR.49, para. 30).

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted
by the Second Committee in its report (A/39/792, para. 21),
concerning agenda item 82*

71. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the draft resolution under consideration would have the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive study on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The preparation of the study would require four work-months of a high-level consultant at a cost of \$30,000 in fees and travel. As indicated in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/96), that requirement would be covered under the existing provisions for consultants in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. Therefore, no additional provisions would be required. At the same time, the General Assembly would grant \$1.5 million to UNITAR, on an exceptional basis. As there was no possibility for absorbing the amount of that grant in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, an additional appropriation of \$1.5 million would be required under a temporary expenditure section of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.49, para. 34).

Consolidated statement of programme budget implications
in respect of conference-servicing costs

72. At the 52nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in document A/C.5/39/98, conference-servicing requirements calculated on a full-cost basis were estimated at \$19,352,100, of which \$13,253,200 related to Headquarters, \$2,906,200 to Geneva and \$3,192,700 to Vienna. After taking into account the resources which had already been appropriated for the biennium 1984-1985, the Secretary-General was requesting a total additional appropriation of \$9,238,200. The Advisory Committee believed that the method of estimating conference-servicing requirements for Vienna should be refined. At United Nations Headquarters, there was room for increased productivity and also for better preparation of documents. Whenever the Advisory Committee looked at forecasts of documentation, it noted, in certain cases, areas in which documentation could be decreased without jeopardizing the work of the intergovernmental body which was to consider those documents. The Advisory Committee was recommending that \$4,250,000 should be appropriated in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 as follows: \$50,000 under section 28D; \$2,200,000 under section 29A; \$2,000,000 under section 29C. An additional amount of \$900,000 would be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by

* Training and research: Long-term financing arrangements for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

an increase in the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment) (see A/C.5/39/SR.52, para. 15).

Revised estimates: recosting of decisions of the
Fifth Committee concerning statements of programme
budget implications and revised estimates

73. At the 54th meeting, the Controller orally introduced document A/C.5/39/100 and said that it dealt with the adjustments which needed to be made in the requirements arising from revised estimates and decisions on statements of programme budget implications in order to take into account the operational rates of exchange and inflation which had been used in the first programme budget performance report for the biennium 1984-1985 (A/C.5/39/88). That step was required so that all the components of the revised appropriations in the programme budget for the biennium would be based on a consistent set of budgetary parameters. The adjustment would entail a reduction of \$1,085,100 under the expenditure sections and an increase of \$39,800 under income section 1. The net effect of the two changes would be to reduce the requirements by \$1,124,900.

74. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee noted that the largest reduction, under section 32, related to recosting of amounts appropriated for the Bangkok construction project as a result of the realignment of the Thai currency with the United States dollar. The reduction under section 17 was largely a result of recosting the amounts approved for the first General Conference to be held by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization when it became a specialized agency. The reduction in section 29 related to the recosting of amounts included in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs (A/C.5/39/98). There were also minor increases and decreases in a number of other sections (see A/C.5/39/SR.54, paras. 3 and 4).

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained
in document A/39/L.46, concerning agenda item 80 (c)*

75. At the 57th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships, a resumed session of which was held in Geneva in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/213 A of 18 December 1984, had decided to ask the Assembly to authorize a resumed session of the Conference for two weeks in July 1985. At its 106th plenary meeting, the General Assembly had decided to reopen agenda item 80 (c) relating to the Conference, and currently had before it draft resolution A/39/L.46, which would authorize the resumed session.

76. Should the Conference be resumed, conference-servicing costs estimated at \$224,800, on a full-cost basis, would arise. No additional appropriations would be required for the time being. Any additional requirements would be indicated in the final performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985. However, in the Advisory Committee's view, the entire amount should be absorbed, and there would be no need for additional appropriations (see A/C.5/39/SR.57, paras. 2 and 3).

* Development and international economic co-operation - Trade and development: United Nations Conference on Conditions for Registration of Ships.

77. At the 58th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the Preparatory Body for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, had held a third session at Vienna earlier in 1985 but had been unable to complete its work. In accordance with the draft decision contained in document A/39/L.47, the General Assembly would reaffirm the need to ensure a successful outcome for the Conference and request the Commission to resume its third session in New York for a period of no more than seven days starting from 29 April 1985, in order to complete successfully its preparatory work.

78. The programme budget implications of the draft decision were set forth in a statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/39/102) which indicated that conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated on a full-cost basis at \$133,700. In addition, travel expenditures amounting to \$31,200 would arise from the provision of the substantive support described in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's statement. No additional appropriations were requested since it was intended that the cost of travel of staff would be met from within existing appropriations and that any additional conference-servicing requirements that might arise would be reflected in the final performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

79. The Advisory Committee felt that expenditures for travel to the resumed session of the Commission could be combined with those for the first regular session of the Economic and Social Council which would be held in May 1985, immediately after the Commission's session and which was requested to consider the results of the deliberations of the Preparatory Body. The Advisory Committee noted that the draft decision constituted an exception to General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976 and that it might be necessary to make adjustments in the approved programme of meetings at Headquarters to accommodate the resumed session. The views of the Committee on Conferences would have to be sought in that regard. Since conference-servicing requirements could be entirely absorbed, the Fifth Committee might wish to inform the General Assembly that the adoption of the draft decision A/39/L.47 would not entail any additional appropriations in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (see A/C.5/39/SR.58, paras. 1-3).

Notes

* United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace - Preparations for the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

a/ See A/C.5/39/98.

b/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/38/7 and Corr.1), paras. 28.91 and 28.105.

c/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 (A/38/7 and Corr.1).

d/ Ibid., Thirty-eighth Session, Annexes, agenda item 109, document A/38/753, para. 8 (a) (ii).

e/ Ibid., Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/38/7/Add.1-23), document A/38/7/Add.22, para. 14.