

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

*Official Records*

FIFTH COMMITTEE  
44th meeting  
held on  
Wednesday, 12 December 1990  
at 10 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 44th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. MAYCOCK

(Barbados)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and  
Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/C.5/45/SR.44  
17 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM 129: FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST**

- (a) UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE (A/45/716 and A/45/832)
- (b) UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON (A/45/802 and A/45/832)

1. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) drew attention to the observations and recommendations set out in section IV of the Advisory Committee's report (A/45/832). Paragraph 16 dealt with the amounts placed in the Suspense Account. To date \$60.4 million had been placed in that Account. The financial situation of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was such that the Secretary-General was informing the General Assembly that Member States contributing troops to UNDOF were being reimbursed on a timely basis. As indicated in paragraph 16, after subtraction of the amount transferred to a special account, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/116 A, and after subtraction of outstanding assessed contributions as at 31 October 1990, there was a balance of \$8 million. As indicated in paragraph 19, it was the Advisory Committee's intention to review the situation in 1990 with a view to making recommendations to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session as to the appropriate disposition of the balance at that time. In the mean time, the Advisory Committee was recommending that the surplus indicated by the Secretary-General as at 30 November 1990, namely \$887,000 gross (\$765,000 net) should not be placed in the Suspense Account but, rather, should be credited to Member States. The Advisory Committee was also recommending that a further sum of \$2,017,408, representing the surplus balance in the UNDOF account as at 31 December 1989 should similarly be credited to Member States.

2. In paragraph 22, the Advisory Committee expressed its concern about the continued increase in civilian staff costs, which absorbed a growing portion of the total costs of UNDOF and UNIFIL. The Advisory Committee, which intended to monitor developments in that connection, trusted that the Secretariat would keep the situation under close review.

3. Paragraphs 24 to 26 contained a series of observations by the Advisory Committee concerning costs for premises/accommodation for UNDOF and UNIFIL and the effect of exchange rates on UNDOF and UNIFIL cost estimates. The Advisory Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should pursue his negotiations with the host countries concerned to obtain more preferential conditions for the construction and rental of premises and accommodation, as well as a more favourable exchange rate in respect of all the requirements of UNDOF and UNIFIL. Subject to the decision to be taken by the Security Council on the renewal of the UNDOF mandate after 31 May 1991, the Force's requirements for the period from 1 December 1990 to 30 November 1991 should not exceed \$41,358,000 gross (\$40,393,000 net). On that basis, the Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve commitment authority up to the level of \$3,446,500 gross (\$3,366,500 net) per month. Requirements for UNIFIL for the

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period from 1 February 1991 to 31 January 1992 should not exceed \$153,468,000 gross (\$150,684,000 net). The Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should approve commitment authority up to the level of \$12.8 million gross (\$12.6 million net) per month.

4. Mr. KINCHEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation appreciated the additional information provided in the reports before the Committee. However, there could be greater clarity, particularly where the larger items of expenditure were concerned.
5. Mr. CAVAGLIERI (Italy) said that it was unfortunate that the effectiveness of UNIFIL was not recognized in the form of commensurate financial support.
6. Mr. CONMY (Ireland), supported by Mr. MORDACQ (France), said that the UNIFIL financial crisis was a matter of great concern. Member States must be reminded of their relevant obligations under the Charter.
7. Mr. MICHALSKI (United States of America), referring to paragraphs 44 (b) and 45 of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/45/802, requested clarification of the amount of \$80,000 included in the cost estimates to cover postage of personal mail of military personnel to their home countries. He would also appreciate clarification of the situation regarding insurance coverage in the event of death or disability.
8. Mr. FORAN (Assistant Secretary-General for General Services), responding to the points raised by the representative of the United States, said that the payment of the cost of postage of personal mail of military personnel to their home countries was not new. The estimate in question was included now because the budget outline was more complete.
9. With regard to the provision of insurance coverage in the event of death or disability, peace-keeping troops remained part of their national military forces. In the case of death or disability, the families of military personnel were entitled to benefits on a national basis. The United Nations reimbursed Governments accordingly, and benefit levels therefore depended on the levels in the particular countries concerned.

AGENDA ITEM 118: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991 (continued)

Integrated management information system project (A/C.5/45/20)

10. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee recommended that the Fifth Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/45/20.
11. Mr. LINDFORS (Sweden) noted with satisfaction that work on the user requirements analysis, logical design and hardware and software platforms for IMIS had been completed swiftly and in accordance with the plan presented in document A/C.5/44/8. His delegation noted in particular that the same importance had been

(Mr. Lindfors, Sweden)

accorded to activities for administrative processes financed from extrabudgetary resources as to regular budget activities, and also that peace-keeping operations had been included in the analysis. In that connection, his delegation wished to raise a point concerning the selection of the users who had been interviewed. It was important that not only finance and personnel officials should be involved; managers in substantive departments must also be given an opportunity to influence system design. His delegation would also be interested to know how control and audit aspects had been dealt with in the analysis.

12. As to project plans for the rest of 1990 and 1991, his delegation would have appreciated inclusion in the report of a timetable similar to the one submitted at the previous session. According to that timetable, the internal design stage had been scheduled to start in October. However, paragraph 15 of the current report seemed to indicate that the internal design stage would start later, when the consulting firm for the next stages of the project had been selected, in February or March 1991. His delegation would be interested to know whether its interpretation of that paragraph was correct and, if so, what that delay meant for the rest of the project. His delegation also wished to request the Secretariat to make a general assessment of the status of the project, in comparison with the plans specified in document A/C.5/44/8.

13. On the issue of a cost-benefit analysis for the project, paragraph 25 of document A/C.5/44/8 indicated that it had been anticipated that a cost-benefit analysis would be available in the second quarter of 1990. The current report contained a very detailed review of the benefits to be derived from IMIS. The list was impressive, and Sweden saw no reason to question it. His delegation noted, however, that there was no mention in the report of costs in connection with the development and implementation of the system. A cost-benefit analysis would also have offered an up-to-date estimate of costs. His delegation therefore wished to know whether the Secretariat could provide the Committee with such an estimate.

14. Mr. SPAANS (Netherlands) said that the project was an ambitious one. His delegation noted that the human factor was not really dealt with in the report, which made only a brief reference to training, for example. Training was a decisive factor in such a project, which was not a purely technical operation. It was also important that technicians should not be the only staff involved and consulted.

15. Mr. MICHALSKI (United States of America) said that the Secretary-General's report was detailed and informative, but that it provided little information on the budgetary requirements of the new system. He asked for confirmation that the total cost of the system would not exceed the approved level of \$28 million at 1988 rates.

16. Mr. KINCHEN (United Kingdom) recalled that when the project had first been approved by a vote in the Fifth Committee, one third of the delegates present had not supported it. Paragraph 13 (b) of document A/C.5/45/20 suggested a substantial change in the original plan, paragraph 22 suggested that funds had previously been misapplied, paragraph 26 made vague references to improved service and financial

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benefits, and paragraph 33 made the questionable assumption that the Organization's administrative demands would increase over time. He reiterated his delegation's reservations about supplementary appropriations for large-scale non-essential capital projects at a time when unpaid arrears to the regular budget amounted to 35.1 per cent of the total regular budget for the current year. He proposed that in taking note of the report, as recommended by the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should reiterate its request for a cost-benefit analysis.

17. Mr. FORAN (Assistant Secretary-General for General Services), replying to the representative of Sweden, said that because of the limited time which programme managers could devote to the design of the new system, they were being consulted through their administrative, executive, financial and personnel officers. Programme managers, department heads and the heads of offices away from Headquarters were kept informed of the system's progress and had opportunities to provide input. With regard to the control and audit of the system, a specialist had been recruited for the IMIS team to examine the audit aspects of the system, and the Director of the Internal Audit Division was a member of the Steering Committee for the project. On the subject of the timetable, he said that the project was six months behind schedule and that the internal design phase should begin in February or early March 1991. The delay had been caused by the deliberations which had preceded the decision to develop a new system rather than to adapt the FAO system, as well as by the need to consult with the heads of offices away from Headquarters, whose input was important in view of the proportion of expenditure (over 50 per cent) incurred for such offices. It was anticipated that the design stage would begin in the first quarter of 1991 and that module-by-module implementation would begin in mid-1992; all phases should be implemented by the end of 1993.

18. In reply to the representatives of Sweden, the United States and the United Kingdom, he confirmed that the project should be completed within the approved limit of \$28 million. With regard to the comment of the representative of the Netherlands, he said that the development of the project had involved staff who would be working with the system at all levels, including clerical and support staff. Training in computer use had already been provided in many areas which were not yet computerized. He also took note of the request of the representative of the United Kingdom regarding a cost-benefit analysis of the system.

19. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Fifth Committee should recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the second progress report of the Secretary-General, contained in document A/C.5/45/20.

20. Mr. KINCHEN (United Kingdom), supported by Mr. TEIRLINCK (Belgium), proposed that the Committee should also recommend to the Assembly that it reiterate its request for a cost-benefit analysis.

21. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt his proposal, as orally amended.

22. It was so decided.

Standards of accommodation for air travel (A/C.5/45/28)

23. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the General Assembly should be requested to take note of the report.

24. Mr. MICHALSKI (United States of America) said that the report before the Committee was necessary so that the General Assembly could closely monitor the restrictions on first-class travel and maintain accountability. He requested the Secretariat to inform the Committee of any permanent exceptions to the decision set forth in paragraph 2 of resolution 42/214 which had not been reported in document A/C.5/45/28 and of any other United Nations travellers who were not bound by the restrictions in that resolution. While some progress had been made in reducing first-class travel, prudent management and more stringent conditions for the granting of exceptions could result in a further reduction of costs. His delegation recommended a review of the exception for medical conditions or advanced age. Moreover, while it recognized that eminent persons donated their time to the United Nations, it did not agree that the Organization was responsible for providing them with first-class accommodation. Between 1 July 1989 and 30 June 1990, almost \$100,000 had been spent on travel exceptions authorized by the Secretary-General, 80 per cent of which had been spent for first-class travel. He wished to know how those figures compared with the figures for the two previous years. Exceptions to standard travel regulations were susceptible to abuse. His delegation took note in particular of travel by Concorde by the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, at an additional cost of \$2,278. To put things in perspective, that sum would be enough to pay for scores of meals at any refugee camp anywhere in the world. His delegation hoped that safeguards were in place to avoid the wasteful use of such privileges. Better planning on the part of the Secretariat and a co-operative attitude on the part of United Nations officials would avoid unnecessary travel expenditures in the future.

25. Mr. GUPTA (India) said that there were inconsistencies in the Organization's travel regulations. In 1965, the General Assembly had adopted resolution 2128 (XX), under which United Nations representatives were required to travel in economy class. Members of expert bodies and senior members of the Secretariat were subsequently allowed to travel in business class when it was introduced by the airlines, but permanent representatives of Member States were still required to travel in economy class. He proposed that permanent representatives of Member States should be entitled to travel in business class to attend meetings of intergovernmental bodies, that other representatives of Member States should be subject to regulations similar to those applicable to Secretariat staff, and that the Secretariat should be given increased flexibility so that it could take advantage of new incentives and discounts being offered as a result of increased competition among airlines.

26. Mr. KINCHEN (United Kingdom) asked whether any figures were available on the number of applications for medical exceptions which had been declined by the Medical Director. Exceptions authorized because of the unavailability of standard accommodation reflected poor planning on the part of the travellers, since the events to which they travelled were normally programmed well in advance. In

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addition, eminent persons should be willing to adjust their expectations to the Organisation's rules and regulations. While he was not in a position to decide immediately to support the proposals of the representative of India, he agreed that there were inconsistencies in the current arrangement. He proposed that the Committee should review the situation at the next session on the basis of a document explaining the current regulations, possibly an updated version of the document issued at the forty-third session.

27. Mr. BAZAN (Chile) said that while his delegation did not question the Secretary-General's authority or the criteria followed in granting exceptions to travel regulations, it would like to have details on the exceptions granted for eminent persons, such as the names of the persons concerned and the events to which they had travelled.

28. Mr. KALBITZER (Germany) said that many of the exceptions authorized were contrary to the spirit of the relevant resolution. He deplored the continued disregard of the General Assembly's wishes in the matter.

29. Mr. GUPTA (India) said that he intended to submit his proposals on travel restrictions in writing at a subsequent meeting.

30. Ms. MILLS (Deputy Controller), replying to the representative of the United States, said that the only permanent exception to travel regulations was the one granted for advanced age. With regard to the figures for the previous two years, she noted that because two different régimes had been in effect only the figures for the preceding year could be compared to those for the current year. In 1988-1989, 58 exceptions had been granted for first-class travel and 17 for business-class travel, at an additional cost of \$61,197. In the current reporting period, a total of 110 exceptions had been granted at an additional cost of \$98,234. In reply to the representative of the United Kingdom, she said that she did not have figures on the number of medical exceptions which had been declined, but only on the total number of cases which had been declined. There had been 9 cases in which requests for exceptions had been denied, 4 in which the requests had been withdrawn and 10 in which requests had been approved but the privilege had not been exercised.

31. Mr. MICHALSKI (United States of America) thanked the Deputy Controller for the information which she had provided. However, she had failed to indicate whether there were any travellers who were not bound by the regulations laid down in General Assembly resolution 42/214.

32. Ms. MILLS (Deputy Controller) said that the only individuals in that category were those who were designated by the Secretary-General as his official representatives.

33. Mr. ADEYEMI (Nigeria) asked whether the United Nations dealt only with particular airlines or with all airlines of Member States.

34. Mr. FORAN (Assistant Secretary-General for General Services) said that the question was difficult to answer in the context of deregulation of the airline industry. At the outset, the United Nations had dealt only with airlines belonging to the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Subsequently, the standard had been broadened to include airlines not members of the Association which followed IATA safety standards. The current practice was to choose only airlines which followed acceptable safety standards. There were some carriers which staff members were discouraged from using, but none of them were national airlines.

35. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should take a decision on the matter at its next meeting.

Construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa and Bangkok  
(A/C.5/45/53)

36. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Secretary-General had reported that the construction project in Bangkok was being carried out and would be completed within the timetable given in document A/C.5/45/53. He also noted that the Secretary-General had given no indication that there would be a need to revise the requirements for the Bangkok project.

37. With regard to the construction project in Addis Ababa, the Advisory Committee had exchanged views with the representative of the Secretary-General, who had indicated that the contract for the project would be signed in December 1990 or at the latest in January 1991. A slight reduction in the cost of the project had been projected, but that had to be considered in the light of the exchange rate used to convert the European Currency Unit to dollars.

38. In 1989 the Advisory Committee had recommended that the General Assembly should take note of the Secretary-General's revised estimate of the total cost of the project in Addis Ababa and request the Secretary-General to proceed as necessary with approval of the project in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 41/213, section I, paragraph 1 (a), and 42/211, paragraph 10 (a). The Advisory Committee's current position was similar to that of the previous year. He noted that in paragraph 13 of document A/C.5/45/53, the Secretary-General had not quoted the full text of the relevant General Assembly resolution; a partial quotation could be misleading.

39. The CHAIRMAN said that if heard no objection, he would take it that the Fifth Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/45/53 and authorize the Secretary-General to proceed with the projects in accordance with the revised timetables.

40. It was so decided.

41. Mr. KINCHEN (United Kingdom), explaining his delegation's position on the decision just adopted, said that he had been prepared to support the resumption of work on the construction projects in the context of the process of reform and

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renewal in the United Nations which had been initiated by the adoption of General Assembly resolution 41/213. So long as that process remained meaningful and efforts continued to implement it in a manner which respected the essential balance of interests involved, he did not anticipate having to take a separate position in the matter.

42. Mr. YOHANNES (Ethiopia) said that his delegation welcomed the decision just adopted. The adoption by the General Assembly of a resolution on the question should enable the Secretariat to take the necessary steps with regard to the next phase of the project, which would greatly facilitate the activities of one third of the Member States.

Functioning of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa (A/C.5/45/57)

43. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/57) on the functioning of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), an overall assessment of the activities of the MULPOCs had led to the conclusion that the objectives for which they had been established were still valid. It was therefore intended to maintain them as they were currently structured.

44. He noted that the staff resources of the MULPOCs for the biennium 1990-1991 totalled 63 posts, financed from both the regular budget and extrabudgetary sources. It was estimated that an additional 18 posts would be needed in the next biennium.

45. The Advisory Committee intended to review the Secretary-General's proposal for additional posts for the MULPOCs in the context of its review of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993. In that connection, the Committee requested a report which clearly indicated the specific programme of work of the MULPOCs and its relationship to the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The report should also provide a breakdown of the various funding sources for all the posts, indicating whether each of the posts was funded from regular or from extrabudgetary sources.

46. Furthermore, a clear indication should be provided on the proper status of the MULPOCs. If they were an integral part of the ECA secretariat, it would seem appropriate that they should report to the ECA Conference of Ministers through the Executive Secretary of ECA rather than, as stated in paragraph 21 of the report, to the ECA Conference of Ministers through the committees of intergovernmental experts. The rationale for that arrangement should be explained in the report of the Secretary-General.

47. The CHAIRMAN said that if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Fifth Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take

(The Chairman)

note of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/45/57 and endorse the Advisory Committee's comments and recommendations.

48. It was so decided.

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/C.5/45/65)

49. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) drew attention to paragraph 1 of document A/C.5/45/65, which stated that the General Assembly, by decision 44/466, had authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not exceeding \$6,392,500 for non-conference servicing costs in 1990-1991 in respect of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The Assembly, in the same decision, had also requested the Secretary-General to review the resources required and to report the results to the General Assembly towards the close of the forty-fifth session. The Assembly had further decided that such appropriations as might be necessary should have first claim on the contingency fund.

50. Based on the experience gained thus far and the programme of work mandated by the Preparatory Committee, the level of resources required for the preparatory work for the Conference for 1990-1991 was estimated at \$6,374,700. A breakdown of those resources compared with the amount of \$6,392,500 referred to in General Assembly decision 44/466 was provided in table 1. As shown in that table, a net reduction of \$17,800 in the estimates included a decrease in resources for temporary posts. The reduction amounted to \$582,500, which had been largely offset by increases for other items of expenditure. The overall estimate for temporary posts was based on expenditures incurred to date, taking into account the revised distribution of posts at Geneva, New York and Nairobi and the Secretary-General's proposal to add four General Service staff members at Geneva. In that connection, he drew attention to paragraph 16, which stated that because the secretariat for the Conference was located away from the United Nations Office at Geneva it was unable to utilize services that would otherwise have been available.

51. He noted that the Trust Fund for Preparatory Activities for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the Voluntary Fund for Supporting Developing Countries Participating in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and its Preparatory Process had been established. With regard to the Voluntary Fund, he drew attention to paragraph 37, which stated that the Preparatory Committee had decided to recommend to the Assembly that, on an exceptional basis, payment should be made from the Voluntary Fund for daily subsistence allowance for representatives of the least developed countries. Accordingly, the Secretary-General was requesting a decision on the matter by the General Assembly.

52. As discussed in paragraph 36, the Trust Fund was expected to fund a number of support activities for the Conference. In response to inquiries, the Advisory Committee had been informed that those activities formed part of the overall programme of work established by the Preparatory Committee at its first session. The Advisory Committee had also learned that the total resources necessary for

(Mr. Mselle)

implementing those extrabudgetary activities were estimated at \$15.1 million, and that approximately \$3 million had been received thus far. In his opinion, such information should have been included in the Secretary-General's report. The mere mention of activities to be funded from extrabudgetary contributions without an indication of the resources required was misleading, particularly as the estimate of extrabudgetary requirements far exceeded the regular budget contribution. He requested that in the future, the reports of the Secretary-General should clearly indicate how all resources, including extrabudgetary resources, had been programmed.

53. Drawing attention to paragraph 35, he noted that the additional appropriations totalling \$6,374,700 which had been requested by the Secretary-General would be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund. Accordingly, the additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement to be submitted to the General Assembly at the end of the current session in accordance with resolution 42/211, annex, section C.

54. Mr. MICHALSKI (United States of America), drawing attention to paragraph 9 of document A/C.5/45/65 which mentioned the addition of four General Service posts, said that what appeared to be involved was the United Nations practice of providing mid-level Professionals with personal secretaries. Such a practice was unjustified in that it did not reflect the increase in productivity achieved through the use of modern office technology and perpetuated the idea that a private secretary was an acquired right.

55. The increase in staffing was all the more troubling in the light of the budget performance for the Conference secretariat. He did not understand how it was possible to add staff to that unit while at the same time projecting a \$600,000 reduction in budgeted expenditures. Given the substantial decline in the value of the dollar against the Swiss franc, he would have expected an increase in staff costs, not a decrease, and would appreciate receiving detailed explanations on that issue.

56. The explanations provided in paragraph 27 for the fourfold increase in travel expenditures were rather unconvincing. He wondered why the need for meetings had not been foreseen when the original travel estimate had been prepared. He also wished to know how many staff members would be allowed to go on what he would describe as "junkets", how many excursions were planned and which countries would be visited. He questioned whether it was really necessary to conduct such a public relations campaign, which implied that the need and utility of an international conference might not be accepted by specialized institutions and interested organizations.

57. Mr. IRUMBA (Uganda) said that he did not share the attitude of the United States representative concerning efforts to publicize the Conference. With regard to staffing, he wondered what had happened to the assurances which delegations had received at the resumed session. With the balance heavily weighted in favour of

(Mr. Irumba, Uganda)

Geneva and with only a thin layer of staffing in New York and at Nairobi, he hoped that the Conference would not be overly oriented towards climatic issues rather than environment and development.

58. Mr. BAUDOT (Director, Programme Planning and Budget Division) said, in response to the comments by the representative of the United States, that the reduced staff costs were attributable to delays in recruitment and, to recosting of the original estimates of expenditure. With regard to travel costs, he said that the senior staff of the Conference secretariat were required to travel extensively, but that the matter would be kept under review.

59. In response to the question by the representative of Uganda, he said that under the revised distribution of staff a new post at the D-2 level had been included in New York but that the Secretary-General of the Conference had decided that sufficient staff had been assigned for Nairobi, although that decision could be revised in the course of preparations for the Conference.

60. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said, by way of clarification, that the report under consideration did not require the General Assembly to approve any additional appropriations at the current stage. The Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly should be informed that requirements for the Conference would amount to \$6,374,700 for 1991 and that the actual amount of any appropriation that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement.

61. The CHAIRMAN said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to inform the General Assembly that requirements for the Conference on Environment and Development would amount to \$6,374,700 under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, as broken down in paragraph 35 of document A/C.5/45/65, and \$1,110,900 under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment). The actual additional appropriations in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement to be submitted later in the session. He would also take it that the Committee wished to recommend that, on an exceptional basis, payment should be made from the Voluntary Fund for daily subsistence allowance for representatives of the least developed countries.

62. It was so decided.

63. Mr. IRUMBA (Uganda) said that it would make for better programming if, in future reports, the Secretariat took into account the comments made by the Advisory Committee on the presentation of information on extrabudgetary resources. His delegation was not satisfied with the Secretariat's explanation of the staffing situation of the Conference secretariat. He recommended that the matter should be kept under constant review.

64. Mr. INOMATA (Japan) drew attention to the provisions of paragraph 9 of section II of General Assembly resolution 44/228, calling upon the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other agencies to contribute fully to the preparations for the Conference on the basis of guidelines and requirements to be established by the Preparatory Committee. He hoped that UNEP and the other relevant bodies were preparing the necessary studies and stressed that such studies should be properly co-ordinated and consistent with the Preparatory Committee's guidelines. It was also important for the Secretary-General to ensure the full co-ordination of topics selected by UNEP for the Conference and other organizations and optimum utilization of the resources available to the United Nations system.

Effective implementation of United Nations instruments on human rights and effective functioning of bodies established pursuant to such instruments

Developments relating to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights (A/45/807; A/C.5/45/66)

65. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Secretary-General's report in document A/45/807 had been submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/47. He drew attention to paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report, which referred to the analysis commissioned by the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management and the unforeseen and rapid growth in the Centre's responsibilities in 1990 and noted that, since the Secretary-General was not in a position to propose redeployment of resources from other sections of the programme budget, Member States had been invited to consider providing voluntary contributions to the Centre.

66. Turning to draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.72/Rev.1 on the Centre for Human Rights, he drew attention to paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report in document A/C.5/45/66, which recorded the adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, by the Third Committee. Although the resolution had not yet been adopted by the plenary Assembly, the Secretary-General had already submitted the requested additional proposals, in order that the deadline set by the Third Committee could be met. The proposals, which were set out and explained in document A/C.5/45/66, had not yet been considered by the Third Committee from the programmatic point of view.

67. The Advisory Committee noted that the procedure followed in submitting the proposals was irregular, but, since the Convention on the Rights of the Child had entered into force much earlier than anticipated, it recommended that the three additional posts described in paragraph 8 of A/C.5/45/66, relating to the implementation of supervisory procedures for the Convention, should be approved. The Advisory Committee did not recommend approval of the four posts requested in paragraph 9, however, and maintained that any request for additional posts should be made in the context of the Secretary-General's proposals for 1992-1993, and in the light of the management and work-load analysis which was currently under way.

(Mr. Mselle)

68. The Advisory Committee therefore recommended that the Committee should inform the General Assembly that, if it adopted draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.72/Rev.1, as orally revised, additional expenditure of \$120,300 for three additional posts related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child would arise under section 23 of the programme budget for 1990-1991, and that the additional expenditure should be dealt with in accordance with guidelines for the operation of the contingency fund. Accordingly, any actual additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement to be submitted later in the session.

69. Mr. CAVAGLIERI (Italy), speaking on behalf of the twelve States members of the European Community, welcomed the programmatic justification provided by the Secretary-General for his proposals in document A/C.5/45/66 and supported the Advisory Committee's recommendation on the establishment of additional posts relating to the Convention of the Rights of the Child. He was puzzled, however, by its rejection of the accompanying proposal in respect of the Centre's other activities, particularly in view of the statistical data provided in document E/1990/50, detailing the growing volume of correspondence processed at the Centre.

70. The Twelve looked forward to the forthcoming management and work-load analysis and believed that it would provide a sound basis for the further strengthening of the Centre in 1992 which would not necessarily entail an increase in the current level of funding under the regular budget. Those issues would have to be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993. With regard to the revised estimates for 1991, however, the Twelve believed that if the Committee could not agree to approve the Secretary-General's proposals the issue should be the subject of further consultations.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.