



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/6993
15 December 1967

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-second session
Agenda items 74 and 84

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1968

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Brian J. LYNCH (New Zealand)

1. On 14 December 1967, at its 1225th meeting, the Fifth Committee considered a report by the Secretary-General on the United Nations International School (A/6962) and the report of the Board of Trustees annexed thereto, the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/6974), and a draft resolution submitted by Denmark, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the United States of America (A/C.5/L.934). The Committee also heard an oral statement by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
2. All representatives who participated in the discussion emphasized the importance of the International School as a valuable adjunct to the United Nations and brought out its contribution to the aims and spirit of the Organization. They joined in expressing the hope that satisfactory solutions would soon be found to the long-standing problems of financing the School and locating it on a permanent site.
3. Many delegations noted that inadequate progress had been made towards achieving the target of \$3 million for the Development Fund. These delegations hoped that voluntary contributions to the Fund by Member States or Governments would increase substantially during 1968. One representative informed the Committee that, while his delegation would vote in favour of the proposed draft resolution, it was of the opinion that the School should become self-supporting at the earliest possible date.

4. Several representatives expressed satisfaction at the increased enrolment in the School. In this connexion, one delegation referred to the representation of Africans among the student body and expressed the view that this situation would improve as Africa became better represented in the Secretariat. He also noted with appreciation the progress made in broadening the curriculum and strengthening the language programme.
5. Some delegations noted with concern that, although the facilities that had been under preparation at the 25th Street site were better than the School's former premises, those facilities were now deemed inadequate to meet the future needs of the School. In this connexion, the United States representative announced that it was the intention of the City of New York authorities to lease an existing school at 51st Street and First Avenue, for a nominal fee, for use by the International School as an additional interim facility while a long-term solution was sought to the site problem. On this question one representative drew to the attention of the Committee the General Assembly's decision in resolution 2003 (XIX) to approve in principle the use of the north end of the Headquarters site for the construction of a new school. The same representative expressed the view that this site should be used if the feasibility studies now being carried out showed that the site under consideration at 39th and 40th Streets was unusable. He further proposed that one person should be entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring that the finances of the School are properly administered. Another representative associated himself with these views.
6. The draft resolution (A/C.5/L.934) was adopted unanimously.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

The Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

/...

United Nations International School

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,^{1/} and the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations International School annexed thereto, and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon,^{2/}

Noting that the construction of a new school at the 25th Street site leased from the City of New York has been suspended pending the conclusion of feasibility studies on a new site closer to the United Nations complex,

Noting the rapid growth in school enrolment and the urgent need for a solution to the physical problems of the School,

Noting further the slow growth in the Development Fund which is a major condition of the Ford Foundation grant and essential to the financial viability of the School,

Noting that without an adequate Development Fund, the School again faces an operating deficit of \$49,000 for the current school year,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to extend his good offices to the Board of Trustees with a view to reaching a fully satisfactory and speedy solution for both the interim and the permanent accommodation problems;
2. Decides to contribute \$49,000 to the International School Fund in 1968 to cover the deficit foreseen for the current school year;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session on the status of the Development Fund and any new proposals required for the achievement of the target of \$3 million.

^{1/} A/6962.

^{2/} A/6974.