



Chairman: Mr. Motoo OGISO (Japan).

AGENDA ITEM 73

Budget estimates for the financial year 1973 (concluded)

Draft report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly (concluded) (A/C.5/XXVII/CRP.23 (part II))*

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the last part of the Committee's draft report (A/C.5/XXVII/CRP.23 (part II)) and to vote on draft resolutions II, III and IV which were contained in paragraph 67.

Draft resolution II, part A, relating to budget appropriations for the financial year 1973, was adopted by 60 votes to 7, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution II, part B, relating to income estimates for the financial year 1973, was adopted by 75 votes to none.

Draft resolution II, part C, relating to financing of appropriations for the financial year 1973, was adopted by 65 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

Draft resolution III, relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1973, was adopted by 63 votes to 9, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV, relating to the Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1973, was adopted by 65 votes to 9.

2. Mr. PASHKEVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (Rapporteur) said that owing to lack of time and the fact that the summary records of recent meetings had not yet been issued, he had been unable to reflect the various views expressed by delegations concerning the items dealt with in part II of the Committee's draft report. Instead, he had merely indicated the meetings at which those questions had been discussed.

3. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines) expressed dissatisfaction with the account given in the paragraphs 43 to 52 of Committee's draft report of the content of the report of the Special Committee on the Financial Situation of the United Nations. It was not a balanced account; the view of two members of the Special Committee who were in favour of excluding expenditure on technical assistance from the regular budget had

been reflected whereas the opposing position of a number of developing countries had not.

4. Mr. PASHKEVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) (Rapporteur) said that, as he had explained, it had been impossible to include the views expressed in the Fifth Committee. If all delegations were to insist on their positions being reflected, he doubted whether it would be possible to agree on an acceptable text in the short time remaining. Paragraph 49 of the draft report reflected the opinions expressed by two members of the Special Committee itself.

5. Mr. CHERPOOT (India) pointed out that it would be possible to accommodate the representative of the Philippines by drafting a sentence embodying the views of the developing countries as reflected in paragraph 14 (c) of the report of the Special Committee (A/8729).

6. Mr. SILVEIRA DA MOTA (Brazil) endorsed the suggestion of the representative of India. His delegation would approve the draft report on the understanding that the Rapporteur would consult the delegations concerned so as to ensure that the Fifth Committee's report reflected the views of those members of the Special Committee who had objected to the idea of eliminating the technical assistance programme from the regular budget.

7. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines) agreed with the two previous speakers and requested the Rapporteur to make the necessary modifications in paragraph 49 of the draft report.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would assume that part II of the Committee's draft report was approved, on the understanding that the Rapporteur and interested members would consult for the purpose of complying with the request of the representative of the Philippines.

It was so decided.

COMPLETION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK

9. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee had now completed consideration of all the items on its agenda. During the session it had dealt with many important budgetary and administrative matters. In the past few weeks it had had to deal with a very heavy workload owing mainly to the delay in the issuing of documentation. Nevertheless, the Committee's achievements had been significant thanks to the cooperation of delegations. He thanked his fellow officers for their valuable assistance in bringing the session

* Resumed from the 1554th meeting.

to a successful conclusion. He also paid tribute to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and his colleagues, whose wise and sound judgement had proved an invaluable aid. Finally, he thanked the members of the Secretariat for their unflagging efforts on behalf of the Committee.

10. Mr. RHODES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) thanked the Chairman for the kind words he had addressed to the Advisory Committee.

11. During 1972, the Advisory Committee had produced 31 reports on the budget estimates for 1973 and 12 reports on other agenda items. Perhaps on the surface that did not seem to be a significant contribution to the reduction in documentation, but on closer scrutiny it would be noticed that many of the reports were shorter than those submitted at previous sessions. Most of the reports contained recommendations, only a few of which had been rejected or modified by the Fifth Committee. The Advisory Committee, as its name suggested, was a purely advisory body; as such, its task was to focus attention on the administrative

and budgetary aspects of proposals so that the Fifth Committee could take informed decisions. During the current session it had only failed to achieve that objective on a single occasion.

12. He thanked the Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur for facilitating the Advisory Committee's work. He also paid a tribute to the members of the Fifth Committee for their co-operation and patience and to the representatives of the Secretary-General who had assisted the Advisory Committee both during the session and in the months before it opened. Despite the harsh words spoken regarding the late appearance of some documentation, he hoped that the Secretariat would accept his assurance that its assistance was greatly appreciated. He expressed particular gratitude to the secretariat of the Advisory Committee, which had carried an exceptionally heavy workload during the past few weeks.

13. After an exchange of courtesies, the CHAIRMAN declared that the Fifth Committee had completed its work for the twenty-seventh session.

The meeting rose at 11.40 a.m.

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