



Fifth session

PLACE OF MEETING OF THE SIXTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Financial implications of a draft resolution (A/1593) presented to the General Assembly at its 316th plenary meeting on 2 December 1950

Thirtieth report of 1950 of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/433) on the financial implications of the draft resolution submitted in document A/1593 concerning the place of meeting of the sixth regular session of the General Assembly.
2. The estimated cost of holding the session in Europe is based on the several assumptions set forth in document A/C.5/433. Precise or detailed figures clearly cannot be presented at this stage, and the Advisory Committee has therefore confined itself to an examination of a general character.
3. The actual cost of the third regular session (1948) in Paris exceeded the amount estimated for the holding of that session at Headquarters by \$1,413,000, and, having regard to the various new factors of cost to which the Secretary-General has drawn attention, the Advisory Committee believes that a figure in the neighbourhood of \$1,750,000 would in the circumstances represent a reasonably accurate estimate for the year 1951. This figure is, however, dependent upon the place of meeting and the facilities offered. The probable saving through holding the session in Geneva rather than elsewhere in Europe was estimated in 1948 at \$146,000, and it appears to the Committee that this difference would at least be maintained in 1951.
4. The draft resolution (A/1593) contains a consideration to the effect that "there may arise [at Headquarters during 1951] technical difficulties liable to impede the normal functioning of the Assembly and the convenience of its deliberations". The Advisory Committee believes, on the information available to it, that such difficulties would not be insurmountable.

5. For the purpose of the general estimate of costs, the Secretary-General has assumed, among other things, that the General Assembly building at Flushing Meadow will be retained only until the end of June 1951. In the opinion, however, of the Advisory Committee, it may be necessary in any case to retain that building until the completion of the General Assembly Hall at Headquarters.
6. It would, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, be advantageous, if Europe is decided upon, to provide that the selection of a location shall not be automatic, but rather be subject to circumstances judged necessary for the purposes of the session.
7. Accordingly, the Committee advises that, in its view, the cost of holding the sixth session of the General Assembly in Europe, at a location other than Geneva, would amount to approximately \$1,750,000, and to a figure of about \$1,600,000 should Geneva be selected.
