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Chairman: Brigadier-General Carlos P. ROMULO (Philippines).

Financial implications of the draft resolution proposed by the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee concerning agenda item 67 (A/2308, A/C.5/536)

1. The CHAIRMAN called the Committee's attention to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/536) on the financial implications of the draft resolution approved by the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee (A/AC.61/L.23/Rev.4) concerning the Conciliation Commission for Palestine. The comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions were contained in its thirty-ninth report (A/2308).
2. The Chairman proposed that the Rapporteur should be authorized to inform the General Assembly that adoption of the resolution proposed by the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee would involve an additional appropriation of \$45,000 under section 5 of the budget estimates for the financial year 1953.

The Chairman's proposal was adopted by 26 votes to 5.

3. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the schedule of meetings of the Fifth Committee and the General Assembly would make it impossible for the Rapporteur

to submit his draft report to the Committee. He therefore proposed that the Rapporteur should be authorized to submit the report direct to the Assembly.

It was so decided.

Budget estimates for the financial year 1953:
(a) Budget estimates submitted by the Secretary-General (A/2125 and Add.1, A/C.5/500, A/C.5/515, A/C.5/516, A/C.5/524 and Add.1, A/C.5/526, A/C.5/530, A/C.5/533, A/C.5/534, A/C.5/L.222); (b) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2157, A/2273, A/2302, A/2303, A/2304, A/2305, A/2306, A/C.5/499) (*continued*)

[Item 42]*

First reading (continued)

INTERNATIONAL SUGAR CONFERENCE

4. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the Secretary-General's report on the holding of an international sugar conference in 1953 (A/C.5/530)

* Indicates the item number on the agenda of the General Assembly.

together with the thirty-third report of the Advisory Committee (A/2302).

5. Mr. BLANCO (Cuba) inquired whether the Secretary-General accepted the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

6. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) replied in the affirmative. It was of course impossible to form an absolutely accurate estimate of the expenditure which the international sugar conference would entail, but the Secretary-General could approach the Advisory Committee should the maximum appropriation of \$25,000 prove insufficient.

7. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation that the following paragraph should be inserted in the draft resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses:

"(c) Such commitments not exceeding a total of US\$25,000 as are occasioned by the holding of an inter-governmental commodity conference".

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was approved by 31 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

SECTION 3. THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,
COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES. SECTION 20.
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA.

8. In reply to a question by Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands), Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) observed that the Committee had already decided on a budgetary appropriation in respect of the adoption of Spanish as a working language by the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions. The Committee's later decision to appropriate the necessary funds for the holding of the sixteenth session of the Council at Geneva would entail additional expenditure by reason of the fact that the Council would henceforth have three working languages instead of two. It was that additional expenditure which was the subject of the Advisory Committee's report (A/2303).

9. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation that, despite the holding of the sixteenth session of the Council and the ninth session of the Human Rights in Geneva, the estimate of \$350,000 previously recommended (A/2242) to cover the additional costs of adopting Spanish as a third working language should not be revised.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation (A/2303) was adopted by 34 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

UNITED NATIONS TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION
FOR PALESTINE

10. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) drew attention to paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/533), in which provision was made for a journey to New York by the Chief of Staff of the Truce Supervision Organization in order to attend the session of the General Assembly. Since there was no procedural requirement or decision to retain the item relating to Palestine on its agenda, such a provision seemed to him unnecessary. He therefore proposed that it should be deleted on the understanding that, if it proved necessary for the Chief of Staff to come to New York for the Assembly, a supplementary estimate would be submitted.

11. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that it was not yet known whether the Chief of Staff would visit New York for the next session of the General Assembly or for some other reason.

12. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) accordingly proposed that the words "to attend the General Assembly" should be deleted.

13. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq), supported by Mr. ASHA (Syria), objected to that proposal, pointing out that the Secretary-General's request for an appropriation was based on a decision not of the General Assembly but of the Security Council (S/2157).

14. Miss WITTEVEEN (Netherlands) felt that the recommendation made in paragraph 5 of the Advisory Committee's thirty-sixth report (A/2305) should be stressed, and inquired how much of the provisional appropriation of \$2,000,000 under section 5 had already been committed.

15. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) replied that, in addition to the appropriation of \$2,000,000 under section 5, the Secretary-General had included a supplementary estimate of \$538,000 in respect of political missions in 1953 in the provisional forecast of Members' assessments for 1953 (A/C.5/L.182). In view of the decisions taken by the General Assembly, it now appeared that the full amount would not be required and that expenditure in respect of political missions would amount to a total of \$2,144,700.

16. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation that a sum of \$450,000, representing a reduction of \$12,100 on the figure submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/533), should be provided under section 5 to meet the requirements of the Truce Supervision Organization for Palestine.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was approved by 33 votes to 5.

UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION FOR THE UNIFICATION
AND REHABILITATION OF KOREA

17. The CHAIRMAN called the Committee's attention to the report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/534) and the thirty-fifth report of the Advisory Committee (A/2304).

18. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Commission's activities had not contributed towards a solution of the problem, but had in fact served to aggravate it. He therefore considered that it would serve no useful purpose to prolong its existence and proposed that the appropriation requested should be rejected.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 27 votes to 5, with 3 abstentions.

19. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Advisory Committee's recommendation that a sum of \$250,000, representing a reduction of \$6,700 in the figure submitted by the Secretary-General, should be provided under section 5 in respect of the Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was approved by 30 votes to 5.

SECTION 5a. UNITED NATIONS FIELD SERVICE

20. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee) observed that in its original report on the budget estimates (A/2157) the Advisory Committee had recommended a reduction of \$19,000 in the estimate submitted by the Secretary-General for section 5a. After re-examining the estimates for the Field Service in the light of the investigation and conciliation missions' requirements, the Advisory Committee considered that the figure of \$546,200 originally proposed was reasonable, and therefore adhered to the recommendation made in paragraph 102 of its report. The Secretary-General had accepted the reduction proposed.

21. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the appropriation requested for section 5a should be rejected on the ground that the expenditure proposed was not provided for in the Charter.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 27 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

The Advisory Committee's recommendation was approved by 31 votes to 5.

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

22. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had already discussed the question of the International School at some length (365th and 370th meetings); he therefore hoped that further discussion would be confined to the concrete proposal submitted by the United Kingdom (A/C.5/L.222).

23. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) said that the United Kingdom delegation had put forward a number of suggestions at the beginning of the discussion on the International School, but, in the light of the additional information which had been laid before the Committee (A/C.5/524/Add.1), he felt that the new United Kingdom proposal offered a better solution.

24. His delegation had examined the reports submitted to the Committee, and was somewhat surprised and concerned at the position of the School. They were all equally concerned for the welfare of the children but he hoped that the question would be considered calmly and dispassionately. His delegation approved the International School as an institution serving the community centring on the United Nations, but that did not mean that the school must necessarily be supported out of the Organization's budget.

25. There were undoubtedly many other ways in which money could be spent for the benefit of that community, but the budgetary position scarcely justified such liberality, and the request that a subsidy of \$10,000, representing 12 per cent of its annual income, should be granted to the International School should be carefully examined. There were two good arguments against a subsidy: in the first place, once the principle of a subsidy was accepted there was no reason for stopping at any given figure, and in the second place, the Board of Trustees would no longer have any compelling reason for managing the School's funds economically.

26. Thirty-eight of the 107 children attending the School had no connexion with the United Nations but would benefit from the subsidy if it were granted;

which would be undesirable. There might be grounds for granting special assistance to staff members with children attending the School, but some other method should be found to ensure that assistance was given where it was most needed. It was also important that the International School should be self-supporting, which should be possible, given good management. With regard to revenue, there appeared to be a substantial difference between the tuition fees charged by other private schools in the New York area and fees at the International School, which should clearly be raised. The School's expenditure could also be reduced; for instance the ratio of teachers to pupils was very high. Even with a staff of only nine teachers, the average number of pupils per class would be less than twelve.

27. In the circumstances, the question was whether special financial assistance should be given to staff members with children at the International School and, if so, on what conditions. Under the Staff Regulations staff members other than United States citizens were entitled, subject to certain conditions, to a grant of \$200 per annum for the education of their children. Of the fifty-seven children of staff members attending the School, thirty-seven were covered by the grant; at a net cost of \$380 per annum they received full tuition throughout the school year and a hot meal and two snacks every day. *A priori*, there seemed no reason why the fees of \$380 per annum should not be increased, on the understanding that special arrangements could be made in individual cases.

28. If the Committee felt that staff members should be given allowances in addition to the grant provided by the Staff Regulations, the best method would be to set up a fund, managed by the Secretary-General, to enable the latter to assist staff members to pay tuition fees in special cases. The fund should be less than the proposed subsidy of \$10,000; if the school were reorganized on sound lines and if the tuition fees were increased in cases where it was feasible to do so, there would be no need for even half that sum to deal with any genuine difficulties that might arise in individual cases.

29. The United Kingdom delegation was accordingly submitting a draft resolution (A/C.5/L.222) the first operative paragraph of which provided that a sum not exceeding \$3,000 should be appropriated in 1953 to be applied in individual cases and at the discretion of the Secretary-General in the form of grants in aid of the tuition fees of the children of members of the United Nations staff attending the School who were found to be in need of such assistance. The second operative paragraph of the draft resolution assumed that the total deficit in the School's accounts would be reduced in 1953 from \$10,000 to \$4,000. Even if expenditure could not be cut down, the deficit could be reduced by increasing tuition fees by \$60 per child. In the case of staff members, the increased tuition fees would be largely offset by the grants which the Secretary-General could make from the \$3,000 fund. He hoped that in 1954 the Board of Trustees would be in a position to balance the budget so that it would be unnecessary to make further increases in tuition fees or to repeat the subsidy of \$4,000 granted to meet the deficit in the School's accounts in 1953. The General

Assembly should not decide to continue grants to staff members in 1954 before receiving a full report on the financial reorganization of the International School, although there might be grounds for continuing to make individual grants until the reorganization of the School was completed.

30. His delegation had submitted its draft resolution because it was anxious that the International School should be managed economically and should not become a burden on the United Nations budget. However it was also felt that the International School should be given time to carry out the necessary reorganization and to ensure that the parents of pupils were not placed in a difficult position.

31. Mr. VAN ASCH VAN WIJCK (Netherlands) was disappointed to find that the International School had no specific plans for the implementation of its ambitious expansion programme, in particular with regard to the financial aspects of the plan. He did not wish to discuss in detail the information contained in document A/C.5/524/Add.1; but that information was not sufficient to remove the Netherlands delegation's misgivings. Only half of the pupils at the International School were children of staff members and only half of those were non-Americans. In the circumstances it was reasonable to ask whether the United Nations was under any obligation to finance the International School.

32. His delegation was greatly interested in the International School and fully understood the difficulties of the parents of children attending it. Undoubtedly the closing of the School, particularly at the present stage of the school year, would seriously inconvenience parents. He was therefore prepared to support a proposal of the kind put forward by the United Kingdom, but asked for further details regarding the allocation of grants-in-aid. In any event, if any such action were taken it should not be regarded as establishing a precedent justifying a further appeal for funds at the next session of the General Assembly. If the International School was to survive, it must reorganize its finances on a sound basis and become self-supporting.

33. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) said that the Secretary-General's report confirmed the views of the Uruguayan delegation. The problem was in fact a specifically international one since it concerned the education of the children of members of the United Nations Secretariat. Staff members had come from all parts of the world to co-operate in the great work entrusted to the Organization under the Charter, and an international school had been set up for their benefit. Member States could not be indifferent to its existence and development. In all countries education was rightly a matter of major concern to governments. In Uruguay as in many other countries education was free and non-denominational at every level. The State bore the whole cost and in no case were parents required to pay tuition fees for their children. The United Nations could do no less if it was to remain loyal to the principles of the Charter and to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

34. It had been argued that the parents of some of the children attending the International School had nothing

to do with the Organization. Far from being undesirable, that was both right and proper. It was important that children of other nationalities should get to know the United States and learn to understand that country by mixing with American pupils.

35. In 1953 the School would spend \$81,500 and its revenue would be \$68,100, leaving a deficit of \$13,400. Most of its revenue came from tuition fees, which amounted to \$64,000. The International School was asking for a subsidy of only \$10,000, or 12 per cent of its budget. The adoption of the United Kingdom proposal would not solve the problem or meet the whole deficit. Moreover it was difficult to see how it could be left to a single person, even the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to allocate grants-in-aid affecting human interests as fundamental as the education of children. The matter raised difficult financial problems, but he urged that the Committee should approve the grant necessary for the International School to continue its work.

36. He had always taken a keen interest, both officially and privately, in the existence and development of the United Nations International School. The Uruguayan Government had already given a collection of textbooks to the school and now proposed to offer a scholarship which it thought should be awarded by preference to children whose parents had died in the service of the Organization.

37. It was not enough for the United Nations to build and adorn magnificent buildings. The education of children was a matter of capital importance. Moreover, an outlay of \$10,000 would not throw the Organization's budget out of balance. He therefore urged the Fifth Committee to approve an appropriation which would permit the International School to continue its educational work.

38. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) pointed out to the Uruguayan representative that the United Kingdom proposal would enable the School's deficit to be covered in full. The proposal was to grant the School a direct subsidy of \$4,000 and to increase its total receipts by \$6,000 by raising the tuition fees, which would be partially offset, for Secretariat members, by the payment of a supplementary education allowance.

39. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) warmly thanked the Uruguayan Government for its contribution of a scholarship to the International School. While recognizing the merits of the United Kingdom proposal, he pointed out that it involved certain difficulties. The wisdom of granting additional allowances to some Secretariat members having children attending the School was doubtful, since that solution involved differential treatment of staff members. Moreover, if tuition fees were raised, some families that did not receive the supplementary allowance might have to withdraw their children from the School. Consequently, the Australian delegation felt that it would be preferable to give assistance only to the School, and in respect of a stated item of its expenditure. The United Nations might for example decide to assume responsibility for the school rent, amounting to \$7,400, in 1953 as it had done in 1952. In that way the

Organization would avoid giving some of its staff members a privileged position as against their colleagues and undertaking to cover a deficit whose amount was not yet known. Furthermore, the School would become self-supporting more easily and more quickly if it was no longer obliged to pay the rent of its premises.

40. As the adverb "only" was used only in paragraph 2 of the operative part of the United Kingdom draft resolution, he asked whether the appropriation of \$3,000 mentioned in paragraph 1 was to be renewable, or whether it applied only to the financial year 1953.

41. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) said that the word "only" had been omitted in paragraph 1 deliberately, since some staff members might still require additional allowances after 1953 to cover all or part of their children's tuition fees.

42. Mr. M. I. BOTHA (Union of South Africa) said that the solution proposed in paragraph 1 of the operative part of the United Kingdom resolution was scarcely acceptable, since it would benefit only a few members of the Secretariat, whose children, moreover, represented only a third of the school enrolment. With regard to paragraph 2, he asked whether the subsidy of \$4,000, although the resolution called for that sum for the fiscal year 1953 only, would not have to be renewed since the School's financial independence was dependent upon two as yet purely hypothetical conditions: a rent-free building and an enrolment of 500 pupils. The Union of South Africa delegation would therefore abstain from the vote on the United Kingdom proposal.

43. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) said that the question of their children's education was certainly a thorny problem for parents whose duties took them to New York. The problem was complicated by the fact that the children would probably have to interrupt their studies in the United States and continue them in their country of origin.

44. Delegations were unanimous in their appreciation of the objectives and activities of the International School. Certain qualifications such as that expressed by the Netherlands delegation regarding the children's adaptation to American life seemed well-founded; such adaptation should be specific and limited, and should not become complete assimilation. It would be better to emphasize the School's fourth objective: namely, to provide an education which would enable the child to continue his studies at a school in his native country. The School's plans for the future, as outlined in the Secretary-General's report, seemed rather ambitious and the Belgian delegation agreed with the criticisms that had been voiced in that connexion. A complete curriculum for both levels of education would appear to be premature; it would be quite adequate if the School provided a primary and lower secondary education that would enable the pupils to continue their studies in their countries of origin.

45. It was not enough to agree on objectives; the School had to be given the means of attaining those objectives. Any subsidy should be regarded solely as a means of helping the school to become self-supporting through sound management; moreover, it should be subject to a time-limit. The Belgian delegation there-

fore asked that the future programme should be designed to relieve the School as soon as possible of the necessity of requesting subsidies.

46. His delegation was glad to see that the School's administrative expenses were remarkably low. As for the admission of American children, that could only benefit the School, both socially and financially. Participation by children of different backgrounds was most desirable, as long as it was carried out with a sense of moderation.

47. Any solution other than the grant of a non-recurring subsidy would either jeopardize the very existence of the School or necessitate an increase in tuition fees; either result would be regrettable. It had been proposed that the grant of such a subsidy should be accompanied by certain safeguards such as the participation of a representative of the Secretary-General in the School's management; such conditions seemed perfectly reasonable.

48. His delegation saw two drawbacks in the United Kingdom proposal. Firstly, it assumed that the School would become self-supporting in 1954; and secondly it would result in increased tuition fees. It seemed preferable to grant the necessary assistance to the School itself rather than to the parents of its pupils. His delegation preferred the Australian proposal, that the subsidy granted by the Organization should be applied to a specific item of the School budget, i.e., to cover its rent.

49. Mr. HANCKE (Norway) would support the Australian proposal for a subsidy of \$7,400 to the International School, to cover the rent of its premises. It was to be hoped nevertheless that the School would be able to balance its budget by 1954; his delegation wished to make it clear that in supporting the Australian proposal, it was not committing itself to subsidies in future years.

50. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) pointed out to the Australian representative that a subsidy of \$7,400 would not be enough to cover the School's deficit, and that unless the School was able to effect substantial economies tuition fees would still have to be increased. In paying the School's rent, moreover, the Organization would be granting it a permanent subsidy which would benefit the children of non-Secretariat parents equally with others. It should be left to the Member States to take any steps necessary to provide for the education of their representatives' children. Moreover, members of the Secretariat who sent their children to the School were already in a privileged position in that they received an allowance of \$200 per year; the United Kingdom proposal, far from introducing an element of inequality in the treatment of Secretariat members, would merely confirm an already existing situation.

51. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) asked that the United Kingdom proposal should be put to the vote first. The measures proposed by the United Kingdom would involve the differential treatment of staff members; a treatment all the more regrettable in that it would take the form of a distinction between rich and poor children which would inevitably be felt by the pupils of the International School. It would be cruel indeed to subject children to discrimination based

on the social position of their parents. The United Kingdom proposal was therefore hardly acceptable.

52. The CHAIRMAN called for a vote on the United Kingdom proposal (A/C.5/L.222).

The United Kingdom proposal was rejected by 13 votes to 8, with 16 abstentions.

53. The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to vote on the Uruguayan proposal to include in the 1953 budget an appropriation of \$10,000 for financial assistance to the United Nations International School.

The Uruguayan proposal was rejected by 15 votes to 13, with 12 abstentions.

54. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the Australian proposal for an appropriation not exceeding \$7,400, under section 17 of the 1953 budget, to cover the rent of the premises occupied by the United Nations International School.

The Australian proposal was adopted by 27 votes to none, with 13 abstentions.

55. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) explained that his vote against the United Kingdom and the Uruguayan proposals should not be taken to imply any criticism of the principles on which they were based; he simply felt that the solutions that they suggested would not achieve their purpose.

56. The CHAIRMAN said that at the request of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees he asked the Uruguayan representative to communicate to his Government the School's gratitude for the scholarship that had been granted.

57. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) regretted that several representatives had been absent when the vote had been taken on the Uruguayan proposal. Perhaps when the final decision was taken, the Australian representative would agree to increase the sum which the Committee had just approved in first reading by \$2,000.

MISCELLANEOUS INCOME

58. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the estimates of miscellaneous income submitted by the Secretary-General (A/2125, pp. 172-174) and the comments made thereon by the Advisory Committee (A/2157, paras. 347-352).

59. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said, in reply to questions from Mr. FRIIS (Denmark), that the receipts from conducted tours of the Headquarters buildings went to the United Nations. The charges were fixed by the Secretariat in consultation with the American Association for the United Nations which organized the tours, and the Secretary-General was prepared to examine the question of reducing them.

60. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the estimates of miscellaneous income for the financial year 1953 were not high enough. The General Assembly should ask the Secretary-General to manage the Organization so that miscellaneous income increased instead of diminishing.

61. The decline in the amount of assessments on salaries and allowances of staff had been attributed to the fact that it had not been possible to forecast the estimates for 1951 and 1952 accurately as a result of

the change-over to the revised salary plan. That explanation was unconvincing because the estimates for the Geneva Office were higher for 1953 than they had been for 1952; moreover, it should not be forgotten that in 1953 the Organization would be spending about one million dollars more on staff salaries than in 1952. The reduction in that item for the financial year 1953 was therefore quite unjustified.

62. The same applied to reimbursement for staff and services furnished for specialized agencies and others. In particular, the figure of \$160,000 estimated for the Geneva Office was very small, considering that a large part of that Office's expenditure for general services, i.e., more than \$2,000,000, went for staff employed at sessions and conferences of the various specialized agencies.

63. The USSR delegation also regretted that the estimate for the sale of official records and publications was \$25,000 less than in 1952. The revenue from film distribution was also very small in relation to the considerable sums spent on the various activities of the Department of Information. The sale of publications of the Departments of Economic and Social Affairs brought in very little; according to the estimates, receipts in 1953 would be only \$60,800 and \$13,000 respectively (A/2125, pp. 159-160).

64. The Soviet delegation also felt that the interest on investments, estimated at \$100,000 for 1953, was inadequate.

65. In the circumstances, the Soviet delegation proposed an increase of \$500,000 in the estimates of miscellaneous income submitted by the Secretary-General for the financial year 1953. The increase would be made up as follows: \$300,000 in respect of assessments on salaries and allowances of staff; \$50,000 on reimbursement for staff and services furnished to specialized agencies and others; \$50,000 on revenue from the sale of official records and publications; \$70,000 on interest on investments and \$30,000 on miscellaneous items (garage, restaurant, etc.).

66. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) observed that all the decisions taken at the current session affected the estimates of miscellaneous income. The Secretary-General would not oppose an increase in the amount of the estimates of miscellaneous income to \$6,238,200 on second reading. It might also be noted that the estimates of miscellaneous income for 1952 had obviously been too high and that the actual figure would be \$300,000 to \$400,000 below the figure approved.

67. The CHAIRMAN put the USSR proposal to the vote.

The USSR proposal was rejected by 27 votes to 5, with 4 abstentions.

68. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said, in reply to a question from Mr. POLLOCK (Canada), that the Secretary-General would have no objection to a vote on a final estimate of \$6,238,200 on the first reading, if the Committee so desired.

69. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to approve a figure of \$6,238,200 for the estimate of miscellaneous income for the financial year 1953.

The estimate was approved by 32 votes to 5.

INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF THE WORKING CAPITAL FUND (*continued*)

70. The CHAIRMAN noted that at its 367th meeting the Committee had adopted a French proposal postponing a decision on the transfer to the Working Capital Fund of the balance of surplus account at 31 December 1951 (\$380,511) to the second reading of the budget. The Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee thought it desirable that the Committee should take a decision at the present meeting.

71. Mr. GANEM (France) regretted that the Committee had not yet been informed of the results of the inquiry undertaken by the Working Group on date of payment of contributions; however, there was no reason to expect that its conclusions would be more favourable than the Secretary-General's. The Committee had already adopted the Secretary-General's proposal that the balance of surplus account at 31 December 1950 (\$1,239,203) should be retained in the Working Capital Fund temporarily for 1953 (A/C.5/515). The Secretary-General also proposed that the balance of surplus account at 31 December 1951 (\$380,511) should be transferred to the Working Capital Fund; the Advisory Committee had no objection to that proposal (A/2273, para. 5).

72. The French delegation proposed that, instead of making those two temporary arrangements, it should be decided to fix the amount of the Working Capital Fund at \$21,500,000 for the financial year 1953. The Committee had no need to fear that if a subsequent reduction in the amount of the Fund was contemplated, that very scrupulous entity would use pressure against such a reduction. The decision would have the merit of being above-board with the Working Capital Fund and with governments; it would also have the advantage of simplifying the Administration's task and would give Member States the satisfaction of a slight decrease in their contributions.

73. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) asked the French representative if his proposal was to be interpreted to mean that a sum of \$260,797 from the balance of surplus account at 31 December 1951 would be transferred to the Working Capital Fund and the remainder (\$119,714) deducted from the contributions of Member States for 1953. If so, the Secretary-General would have no objection to its adoption.

74. Mr. GANEM (France) said that that interpretation of his proposal was correct.

75. Mr. VAN ASCH VAN WIJCK (Netherlands) wished to know the Advisory Committee's opinion.

76. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) pointed out that in adopting the French proposal, the Committee would not thereby be taking a permanent decision; whatever the decision, it would only apply to the financial year 1953. Given the Secretary-General's opinion, the Advisory Committee would probably have no objection to the proposal.

77. Mr. M. I. BOTHA (Union of South Africa) asked that the Committee should be informed of the progress of the inquiry being made by the Working Group. If the Committee adopted the French proposal, its decision must not be misinterpreted; the amount of

the Working Capital Fund was not being permanently increased to \$21,500,000. It should be made quite clear that the decision applied only to the financial year 1953.

78. Mr. FRIIS (Denmark), speaking as Chairman of the Working Group, said that that body's work had been delayed by certain circumstances. Several delegations had had to ask their governments for instructions. As a result the Working Group had only reached the end of the first stage of its work. It would therefore be premature to try to give even general information at the present meeting.

79. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the French proposal to fix the Working Capital Fund at \$21,500,000 for the financial year 1953, including \$260,797 obtained by transfer of part of the surplus at 31 December 1951.

The French proposal was adopted by 28 votes to 6, with 2 abstentions.

80. Mr. WECKMANN (Mexico) explained that he had voted against the French proposal because it would raise the Working Capital Fund to more than \$20,000,000. That procedure was unsatisfactory: it did not solve the Organization's financial problems and it placed much of the common burden on the shoulders of those Member States which paid their contributions regularly.

81. Mr. M. I. BOTHA (Union of South Africa) said that he had abstained for the same reasons.

REDUCTIONS IN THE TOTAL 1953 APPROPRIATIONS (*concluded*)

82. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) wished to thank the Secretary-General and his staff for the way in which they had carried out the spirit of the United Kingdom proposal (A/C.5/L.184). In that connexion, he emphasized that an assurance had been given to the Advisory Committee that no substantive programme or service would be impaired (A/2306, para. 5).

83. Mr. BRENNAN (Australia) associated himself with that statement.

84. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) congratulated the Secretary-General on his proposals and requested additional information on the reduction of \$49,500 proposed under the heading "Curtailement of the trainees and internes programmes" (A/C.5/526, par. 5 (e)).

85. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) explained that in order to effect the proposed reduction the Secretary-General planned to reduce the estimate for the junior professional trainee programme (section 17, chapter III, item (i) (b)) from \$42,500 to \$10,000 and the estimate for interne training (section 17, chapter III, item (ii)) from \$25,000 to \$8,000. Firstly, no new junior professional trainees, whom the Secretary-General would find it difficult to place, would be recruited in 1953, and the revised estimate (\$10,000) would be sufficient to allow the current programme to be completed; in any event that would be only a temporary suspension of such activities, which come under the recruiting programme. Secondly, only \$8,000 would be necessary for a single interne training programme instead of the three programmes for which provision had originally been made.

86. Mr. DAVIN (New Zealand) stressed the importance of the interne training programmes and regretted that the Secretary-General had felt obliged to propose such a reduction; he proposed that the revised estimate should be increased by \$8,000 in order to allow two interne training programmes to be carried out instead of one.

87. Mr. KIA (Iran) and Mr. MENDEZ (Philippines) supported the New Zealand representative's proposal and recalled that through the programmes many students from under-developed countries had been able to acquire a thorough knowledge of the working of the Secretariat, the specialized agencies and international organizations in general.

88. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) associated himself with the previous speakers. The interne training programmes were apparently the only substantive project which would be affected by the Secretary-General's proposals. He wondered whether it would be possible to make the necessary savings by reducing certain administrative expenses together with the scope and frequency of the programmes, without impairing the essentials of the scheme.

89. Mr. VAN ASCH VAN WIJCK (Netherlands) felt that an important question was receiving rather summary treatment, and his delegation would therefore abstain. He appreciated the Secretary-General's proposals and stressed the importance of the assurance given to the Advisory Committee (A/2306, para. 5).

90. Mr. HALL (United States of America) thought that the Committee should abide by the Secretary-General's proposals and not try to change them. Interne training programmes were among those of the Organization's activities which should be curtailed when financial difficulties arose. One interne training programme would meet the most urgent needs; governments should send to United Nations Headquarters only those internes who would profit most from their training. The Committee might also consider the possibility of linking the interne training programme to the work of the Technical Assistance Administration in the field of public administration.

91. In reply to a question by Mr. KIA (Iran), Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) explained that the interne training programme for 1953 would be reserved for officials from Member States.

92. Lord CALDECOTE (United Kingdom) asked whether the Secretary-General might not be able to make reductions in certain other sections so as to be able to finance two interne training programmes instead of one.

93. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General could not undertake to finance a second interne training programme unless he obtained additional credits.

94. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the New Zealand proposal to reduce the \$8,000 the amount of the reduction indicated in paragraph 5 (e) of the Secretary-General's proposals (A/C.5/526).

The proposal was adopted by 17 votes to 3, with 15 abstentions.

95. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the proposal to recommend the General Assembly: (1) to deduct from the aggregate budget the total sum of \$423,850 under a new section 33: (Global reduction to be achieved on various sections of the budget); (2) to amend paragraph 4 of the appropriation resolution by adding a sub-paragraph authorizing the Secretary-General "to apply the reduction under section 33 to the various sections of the budget"; (3) to amend paragraph 3 of the appropriation resolution by inserting a sub-paragraph authorizing the Secretary-General "to administer as a unit the appropriation provided under the various sections in part III for travel on official business".

The proposal was adopted by 33 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

96. Mr. FENAUX (Belgium) said that although his delegation had the greatest sympathy with the important proposal which had just been adopted to meet the wishes of the United Kingdom, it had abstained for the reasons stated by the Netherlands representative, and also because the French text of the Advisory Committee's report (A/2306) had not yet appeared.

97. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) said that his delegation had abstained for the reasons stated by the Netherlands representative. Furthermore, it had never approved the method of ceilings adopted by the Committee in order to achieve a reduction in the budget estimates.

98. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that although his delegation had voted in favour of the Secretary-General's proposals it still thought that they were inadequate. The budget was still much too high and the total of \$35,000,000 proposed by his delegation during the general debate would have been ample.

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly:

- (a) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/C.5/L.218); (b) Committee on Contributions (A/C.5/L.215); (c) Board of Auditors (A/C.5/L.214) (d) Investments Committee: confirmation of the appointment made by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/L.216); (e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal (A/C.5/L.217); (f) United Nations Staff Pension Committee (A/C.5/L.219)

[Item 44]*

99. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the Rapporteur's draft reports on appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of the Board of Auditors (A/C.5/L.214), Committee on Contributions (A/C.5/L.215) and Investments Committee (A/C.5/L.216).

The draft reports of the Rapporteur (A/C.5/L.214, A/C.5/L.215 and A/C.5/L.216) were adopted.

100. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the Rapporteur's draft report on appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (A/C.5/L.217). By its resolution 467 (V) the General Assembly had declared the Right Honourable Lord Crook and Mr. Vladimir

Outrata to be appointed for a three-year term ending on 30 November 1953. That might cause some difficulties if the Administrative Tribunal had to meet in plenary session in December 1953, since there would not be a quorum. In order to overcome that difficulty, the Secretary-General proposed that a third paragraph should be added to the draft resolution contained in document A/C.5/L.217, reading:

“3. *Decides* that the terms of office of the two members due to retire on 30 November 1953 be extended to 31 December 1953.”

The draft report of the Rapporteur (A/C.5/L.217), as amended, was adopted by 33 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

101. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the Rapporteur's draft report on appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of the Advisory

Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/C.5/L.218) and the United Nations Staff Pension Committee (A/C.5/L.219).

The draft reports of the Rapporteur (A/C.5/L.218 and A/C.5/L.219) were adopted.

102. Mr. FAHMY (Egypt) and Baron VON OTTER (Sweden) regretted that the Committee had not yet had an opportunity to consider the opinion of the Commission of Jurists to advise the Secretary-General on certain issues in connexion with the United States Senate Sub-Committee on Internal Security, and stressed the importance which many delegations attached to that question.

103. The CHAIRMAN said that that question would be the first item on the Committee's agenda at its next meeting.

The meeting rose at 2 p.m.