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JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Oleg PASHKEVICH (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic)

I. REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

1. At its 1506th meeting on 18 October 1972, the Fifth Committee considered a report of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on its activities covering the period 1 July 1971 to 30 June 1972 (A/C.5/1433).

Decisions of the Committee

2. The Committee decided, without objection, to approve the suggestions set forth in paragraph 5 of the report (A/C.5/1433) concerning the submission of the various reports of the Unit under the relevant agenda items of the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

3. The Committee also decided, without objection, to suggest to the General Assembly that it adopt a resolution taking note with appreciation of the report on the activities of the Unit for the period 1 July 1971-30 June 1972 (see para. 33 below, draft resolution A).

II. QUESTION OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE  
JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

4. The Committee discussed the question of the continuation of the Joint Inspection Unit at its 1506th, 1508th-1515th and 1517th-1519th meetings, from 18 October to 3 November 1972.

5. By its resolution 2735 A (XXV) of 17 December 1970, the General Assembly decided to continue the Joint Inspection Unit "on the existing experimental basis" until 31 December 1973 and to review the question of the Unit at its twenty-seventh session. For that purpose, the Assembly requested the views of the Secretary-General as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC), the governing bodies of the specialized agencies concerned, the Economic and Social Council, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Joint Inspection Unit itself.

6. For its consideration of this item, the Fifth Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the views of ACC on the continuation of the Unit (A/C.5/1434), a note by the Secretary-General containing the views of the Economic and Social Council and CPC (A/C.5/1437), a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the views of the governing bodies of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (A/C.5/1438), the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/8835 and Corr.1) and that of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/C.5/1432), as well as a document which the delegation of the United States had requested the Secretary-General to circulate in which the United States set forth suggestions concerning the strengthening of inspection and evaluation within the United Nations system.

7. In its report (A/8835 and Corr.1) the Advisory Committee summarized the views expressed on this question by the various bodies concerned and made its own observations and recommendations under the following headings: the continuation of the Unit; its terms of reference; the role of the Chairman; its programme of work; the nature of inspections; reports; the involvement of Inspectors in implementation; qualifications, appointment and tenure of Inspectors; the independence of the Unit; and servicing arrangements for the Unit. The following draft resolution, annexed to its report, was recommended by the Advisory Committee to the General Assembly for adoption:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 2150 (XXI) of 4 November 1966, 2360 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2735 A (XXV) of 17 December 1970 relating to the Joint Inspection Unit,

"Having considered the views submitted in response to resolution 2735 A (XXV) on the future of the Unit, 1/

"1. Decides that the Joint Inspection Unit should continue in being beyond 31 December 1973;

"2. Further decides to evaluate the work of the Unit at its thirty-first regular session;

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1/ A/C.5/1432, A/C.5/1434, A/C.5/1437, A/C.5/1438 and A/8835 and Corr.1

"3. Reaffirms the terms of reference of the Unit as set out in the second report of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies; 2/

"4. Reaffirms the procedures and criteria for the composition and appointment of the Unit, as similarly set out in the second report of the Ad Hoc Committee; 3/

"5. Decides that the term of office of Inspectors should be four years, with the possibility of reappointment;

"6. Directs that the guidelines for the functioning of the Unit and for the handling of its reports shall be those now in effect pursuant to decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, 4/ as modified by those set out in paragraphs 8 to 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 5/

"7. Recommends that the other participating organizations in the United Nations system take appropriate action for the continuation of the Unit on the basis set out in the present resolution."

8. In introducing the report of the Advisory Committee at the 1506th meeting of the Fifth Committee, its Chairman stated that the Advisory Committee had examined the considered views of what constituted a broad section of the United Nations bodies. In its view, the balance of opinion had clearly favoured a continuation of the Joint Inspection Unit, although that support had been qualified in some cases by suggestions regarding the nature of its continuation. As to its mandate, although there had been some opinions expressed in favour of improving it, there had been few specific suggestions as to the manner in which this could be achieved. The

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2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343, para. 67, sect. B, subpara. (c).

3/ Ibid., subpara. (b).

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343, para. 67, sect. B, subpara. (d); conclusions reached by the joint meetings of CPC and ACC in 1967 (Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 17, document E/4404); supplementary arrangements for handling the reports of the Unit adopted by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1457 (XLVII) and the further arrangements to this end endorsed by the Fifth Committee at its 1332nd meeting (Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 81, document A/7849, para. 21).

5/ A/8835 and Corr.1.

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Advisory Committee had, accordingly, tried to remedy that omission and was recommending that the Unit's terms of reference should remain unchanged but that they be amplified. To this end, the Advisory Committee had made certain recommendations in paragraphs 8 to 16 of its report (A/8835 and Corr.1) which, the Chairman stressed, were meant to be guidelines rather than rigid rules which might tend to prejudice the independence of the Unit.

9. In the course of the discussion on this item in the Fifth Committee, various views were expressed with regard to the need for changes in the Unit's organization, planning and methods of work, but the majority of the delegations commenting were in favour of its continuation. Many agreed with the observations of the different bodies which had submitted their views on the subject that, on balance, during the first five years of its existence the Unit had performed a useful service to the United Nations system. While some delegations were in agreement with the recommendations in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution proposed by the Advisory Committee, i.e., that the Unit should continue in being beyond 31 December 1973 and that its work should be evaluated at the thirty-first session, others preferred that a specific period be set for its continuation. Some delegations stated that they would have preferred giving the Unit a more or less permanent status and, whereas there was general agreement regarding the need for future evaluation of the Unit's work, there were differences of opinion as to when and how the review should take place.

10. A few delegations expressed reservations with respect to the continuation of the Unit beyond 31 December 1973. One delegation was of the opinion that the doubts and misgivings which had prompted the Fifth Committee to recommend to the Assembly at its twenty-fifth session that the review of the question of the Joint Inspection Unit be postponed to the current session, 6/ were not yet dispelled. In the observations of the various bodies contained in the documentation before the Committee, there appeared to be an absence of evaluation and a reluctance to give the Unit a permanent status. If the level of the Unit's performance had been generally satisfactory there would have been no need for the many proposals and suggestions which had arisen for changes in the Unit's terms of reference and methods of work. Moreover, it was the opinion of this delegation that it was inappropriate to reach any decision regarding the continuation of the Unit before reviewing the entire United Nations machinery for control, inspection, investigation and co-ordination, of which the Joint Inspection Unit was a part. Another delegation concurred with those views. Commenting on the productivity of the Unit, and what it considered to be the excessive amount of travel of its Inspectors, this delegation felt that the results achieved did not justify the amount of resources which had been made available to the Unit.

11. As regards the terms of reference of the Unit, some delegations felt they were too vague or too broad and needed to be more clearly defined. Other delegations were of the opinion that the existing terms of reference as spelled out by the

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6/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/8266, paras. 1-18; and General Assembly resolution 2735 A (XXV).

Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies and approved by the General Assembly 7/ were still appropriate and needed no modification. Some of those delegations observed that it had been the intention of the Ad Hoc Committee to provide the Unit with broad terms of reference so as to ensure its independence from any external or internal control. They cautioned against any attempt to restrict or give too much precision to the Unit's mandate and thus detract from its usefulness and freedom of operation. A number of delegations agreed with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee that although the terms of reference needed no modification, the manner in which the Unit carried out its mandate should be subject to certain guidelines in addition to those which had been in effect pursuant to decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. 8/

12. The Joint Inspection Unit, commenting on the role of the Chairman of the Unit in its report (A/C.5/1432, paras. 11-13), considered that it would be inappropriate and inexpedient to have a permanent Chairman exercising authority over the other members of the Unit. The Unit felt, however, that the present system of rotation should be on an annual basis rather than on a six-month basis so that the Chairman could play a co-ordinating role in the preparation and implementation of the Unit's annual work programme. The Advisory Committee, in paragraph 8 of its report (A/8835 and Corr.1), agreed with the Unit's interpretation of the Chairman's role and recommended that he be elected annually by the Unit and, furthermore, that he be eligible for re-election. A number of delegations agreed that a permanent Chairman of the Unit might jeopardize the flexibility of the Unit. Except for a few delegations which expressed a possible preference for a two-year term, there was general agreement that the Chairman's term of office should be established for one year instead of for six months as was presently the case. One delegation was opposed to re-election of the Chairman and preferred rotation which, in its view, was more in keeping with the concept of equality of all members of the Unit.

13. At its 1517th meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to include the following text in its report, as proposed by the delegation of Yugoslavia:

"The Fifth Committee agreed that paragraph 8 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/8835 and Corr.1) dealing with the election of the Chairman of the Joint Inspection Unit should be interpreted as meaning that only inspectors who are members of the Unit may be elected by a majority vote of the members of the Unit, for a period of one year. On the expiration of his term, the outgoing Chairman may be re-elected on the same basis."

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7/ Ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343, para. 67, sect. B, subpara. (c).

8/ Ibid., subpara. (d); conclusions reached by the joint meetings of CPC and ACC in 1967 (Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 17, document E/4404); supplementary arrangements for handling the reports of the Unit adopted by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1457 (XLVII) and the further arrangements to this end endorsed by the Fifth Committee at its 1332nd meeting (Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 81, document A/7849, para. 21).

14. As to the planning and programming of the Unit's work, many delegations concurred with the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 9 of its report (A/8835 and Corr.1) that while the Unit should construct its own annual work programme, it should take into account requests made by the legislative or governing bodies or suggestions by the executive heads of organizations. Moreover, its programme of work would be more responsive to the needs of the organizations and the Member States if it were drawn up bearing in mind the views of other bodies active in the administrative area. The view was also expressed that the work programme of the Unit might be spread over a period of two years.

15. Commenting on the nature of the Unit's inspections, one delegation stated that, in its opinion, the Unit should undertake more on-the-spot inquiries and investigations without prior notification. Other delegations agreed with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 10 of its report (A/8835 and Corr.1) that the Unit should concentrate mainly on investigations which would lead to significant improvements in the United Nations system and which would be of concern to more than one organization.

16. Some delegations, commenting on the reports of the Unit, felt that the Unit had produced a number of excellent reports, among them those on the subjects of documentation, publications, personnel problems, rationalization of procedures of the General Assembly and programme budgeting. Other delegations were of the opinion that although some of the reports prepared by the Inspectors were excellent and useful, others lacked interest from the standpoint of improving the management of United Nations activities. It was pointed out by those delegations that the reports were often too long, of peripheral interest and lacking a critical analysis of the specific problem under review. The view was expressed that several of the reports tended to be more in the nature of academic exercises rather than action-oriented inspection reports. Several suggestions were made with respect to improving the reports, such as, inter alia, the standardization of the format of the reports and the preparation of as many collective reports as possible covering the widest areas of activity. Delegations making those observations felt that such suggestions would in no way restrict the independent nature of the Unit but would rather enhance its prestige, by increasing the value of the reports and reducing the amount of documentation. Some delegations called attention to the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 11 of its report (A/8835 and Corr.1) in which it suggested that, if the maximum weight was to be given to the Unit's findings, the Unit should strengthen its internal procedures so as to ensure that while the reports remained the responsibility of the individual Inspectors the recommendations could be tested against the collective wisdom of the Unit.

17. With few exceptions, it was generally agreed that the term of office for Inspectors should be four years with the possibility of reappointment, as was recommended in operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution proposed by the Advisory Committee (A/8835, annex). Most delegations agreed that it was quality rather than quantity which was most important in the selection of Inspectors. It was also stressed by some delegations that the selection should be made on as wide a geographical basis as possible. Some delegations felt that the membership of the Unit should be increased to reflect more realistically the increased and diversified

membership of the Organization and, more especially, that the list of nominating countries allow for the representation in the Unit of the People's Republic of China, one of the permanent members of the Security Council. Other delegations, although sympathetic to those views, felt that any substantial increase in the Unit's membership might tend to decrease its effectiveness. The view was expressed that the present membership should continue, with the possibility of adding a member from the People's Republic of China if and when that Member State so desired. One delegation was of the opinion that the principle of rotation should be applied to the Inspectors and to the membership of the Unit as a whole, on the same pattern as that followed by the Security Council. Such a system, in its view, would allow other Member States to nominate qualified persons to act as Inspectors, and would at the same time add to the talent available to the Unit.

18. In the course of the debate, the delegation of Pakistan proposed an amendment (A/C.5/L.1089) to the draft resolution recommended by the Advisory Committee which, inter alia, dealt with the subject of rotation of the membership of the Unit (see para. 28 below). The representative of Pakistan subsequently withdrew the amendment in favour of inclusion in the report of the following text, which the Committee adopted without objection:

"The Fifth Committee agrees that the evaluation of the Unit at the thirty-first session should also include the principle of rotation of the membership of the Unit."

19. In paragraph 13 of its report (A/8835 and Corr.1) the Advisory Committee, commenting on the involvement of Inspectors in the implementation of their reports, stated that, depending on the nature of the report, it would not preclude the Inspectors being invited to participate in meetings at which their reports were being discussed, provided that such participation or association with the administration concerned was not so frequent or so close as to call into question the independence of the Inspectors or to conflict with the principle that the Inspectors themselves should have no power of decision, nor should they interfere in the operation of the services they inspect. A few delegations, commenting on this point, did not object to Inspectors attending meetings at which their reports were discussed or to their being associated with the implementation of certain of their reports if the competent authorities so requested. Most delegations were of the opinion that the implementation of the recommendations of Inspectors was the sole responsibility of the head of the secretariat unit or of the body which had been the subject of inspection and that under no circumstances should Inspectors become involved. Some delegations, though agreeing that Inspectors should not participate in the implementation of recommendations once they had been adopted by the organization concerned, felt that their participation at meetings at which their reports were being discussed should not be precluded. It was pointed out that if reports were clearly presented, the necessity of intervention by the Inspectors at the implementation stage would be avoided.

20. At the 1519th meeting of the Committee, on the proposal of the representative of Canada, the Committee decided, without objection, to include the following text in its report:

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"The Committee considered that an Inspector might be asked to clarify some recommendation, either by an executive head prior to submission of a report to the relevant governing organ, or by the governing organ itself in the course of its consideration of the report. The Committee agreed that such consultation could take place, provided that due attention was given to ensuring optimal use of travel funds. Inspectors might also become involved in the implementation of their recommendations, once those had been approved by an executive head or by the appropriate governing organ. The Committee, with one exception, realizing that such involvement is costly in both time and money, concurred with the views contained in the first four sentences of paragraph 19 of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/C.5/1432)".

One delegation stated it would have voted against the proposal if it had been put to the vote because, in its opinion, the idea conveyed in the last sentence of the text was inconsistent with the remaining text.

21. In the course of the debate in the Committee, the following amendments were proposed to the draft resolution recommended by the Advisory Committee in the annex to its report (A/8835 and Corr.1).

22. At the 1508th meeting, the representative of Ghana, commenting on the question of the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit, was of the opinion that the task should be entrusted to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, and proposed the following amendment (A/C.5/L.1081):

Insert the following as operative paragraph 7:

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to present annually to the General Assembly a succinct report on those major recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit, as set forth in reports affecting the United Nations, which have not been implemented, together with the reasons therefor."

and renumber the existing paragraph 7 accordingly.

23. At the 1511th meeting, the delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced the following amendments (A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.1):

1. Operative paragraph 1, at the end of the sentence add the words: "on the previous basis".
2. Operative paragraph 2, replace the words "thirty-first regular session" by "twenty-ninth regular session".

24. At the 1512th meeting, the representative of Indonesia introduced the following amendments on behalf of the delegations of Argentina, Indonesia and Yugoslavia (A/C.5/L.1086):

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Amend operative paragraph 1 to read as follows:

"Decides that the Joint Inspection Unit should continue in being until 31 December 1977".

The representative of Indonesia stated that the purpose of the sponsors was to ensure that the Unit would continue for at least another four years, and also to complement paragraphs 2 and 5 of the Advisory Committee's draft resolution, which referred to specific periods of time in connexion with the continuation of the Unit. The amendment was subsequently revised (A/C.5/L.1086/Rev.1) to read as follows:

Amend operative paragraph 1 to read as follows:

"Decides that the Joint Inspection Unit should continue in being for a further period of four years beyond 31 December 1973".

The delegation of India was added to the list of sponsors of this amendment at the 1518th meeting.

25. At the 1513th meeting, the delegation of Brazil introduced the following amendments (A/C.5/L.1084) to the draft resolution of the Advisory Committee (A/8835 and Corr.1, annex), on behalf of the delegations of Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Egypt, Guyana, Mexico, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela:

1. Add the following to the existing two preambular paragraphs:

"Bearing in mind the report presented by the Secretary-General 9/ in compliance with resolution 2537 B (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 on the machinery of the United Nations system for administrative and budgetary control, investigation and co-ordination,

"Noting the concern expressed by the Secretary-General 10/ and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 11/ as well as the views expressed in the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly about the need to avoid a duplication of efforts and a waste of resources in the activities of the bodies and organs comprising that machinery,

"Aware of the need to re-examine and eventually restructure that machinery with a view to improving and streamlining it in the interests of economy and greater efficiency,

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9/ A/7938.

10/ A/C.5/1233, E/AC.51/62.

11/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/7608 and Corr.1).

"Recognizing that the question of the Joint Inspection Unit should be considered in the context of the re-examination mentioned above and its conclusions,"

2. Insert the following as a new operative paragraph 2:

"Decides to review, at its thirty-first regular session, the machinery of the United Nations and of its system for administrative and budgetary control, investigation and co-ordination, and, for this purpose, requests the views of the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer of the United Nations and as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the relevant views of the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, the Economic and Social Council, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Joint Inspection Unit and the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;"

3. Add the following to existing operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution:

"in conjunction with the over-all review provided for in paragraph 2 above"

4. Renumber operative paragraphs 2 to 6 of the draft resolution accordingly.

In introducing the proposed amendments (A/C.5/L.1084) the representative of Brazil stated that although the Joint Inspection Unit was in a category by itself it was none the less a part of the over-all machinery of the United Nations for administrative and budgetary control, investigation and co-ordination. The essential purpose of the sponsors of the amendments was to bring about a much needed appraisal of that machinery and, at the same time, to furnish an appropriate basis for the evaluation of the work of the Unit, not in isolation, but in the context of an over-all review. At the same meeting the delegations of Guatemala, the Philippines, Trinidad and Tobago and the Sudan added their names to the list of sponsors. The delegation of Ecuador joined the sponsors at the 1517th meeting.

26. Commenting on the various amendments before the Committee, some delegations expressed reservations with respect to the amendments proposed by the 16 Powers in document A/C.5/L.1084. Those delegations agreed to the need for an over-all review of the machinery for control, investigation and co-ordination but felt that it should not be linked with the question of the continuation of the Unit. Moreover, in their opinion, the subject of an over-all review should rather be considered under agenda item 78 (Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency).

27. At the 1514th meeting, the representative of Pakistan introduced the following amendment (A/C.5/L.1083):

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1. Amend paragraph 2 to read as follows:

"Further decides to evaluate the work of the Unit at its twenty-ninth regular session, as well as to review the composition of the Unit in the light of resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971 and 'the principle of rotation';"

2. Delete paragraphs 4 and 5 and renumber the subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

It was the opinion of the delegation of Pakistan that a further period of two years would suffice to allow the Secretary-General to produce a suitable reappraisal of the Unit. Furthermore, the amendment was intended to provide other Member States the opportunity to contribute to the work of the Unit. At the 1515th meeting, the representative of Pakistan withdrew his amendment (A/C.5/L.1083) in a spirit of compromise since he felt that the amendments submitted by the Soviet Union (A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.1) were in keeping with the views of his delegation.

28. At the 1515th meeting, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that his delegation had decided to revise the second amendment it had proposed in document A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.1 (see para. 23 above) in light of the second 16-Power amendment (A/C.5/L.1084), which proposed a new operative paragraph 2. The Soviet Union proposed the following revision (A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.2):

1. Operative paragraph 1, at the end of the sentence add the words: "on an experimental basis".
2. Replace operative paragraph 2 by the following:

"Further decides to conduct a preliminary evaluation of the work of the Joint Inspection Unit at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly;"

The Soviet Union, in light of the views expressed in the Committee in the course of debate on the amendments, decided, at the 1518th meeting, to withdraw its amendments (A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.2). The delegation of Pakistan, in support of the principle of rotation for the membership of the Unit, had proposed the following amendment to the proposal of the Soviet Union (A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.2):

In operative paragraph 1, after the words "on an experimental basis", add the words "subject to the principle of rotation of the membership of the Unit".

At the 1518th meeting, the representative of Pakistan stated that because the Soviet Union had withdrawn its amendments (A/C.5/L.1082/Rev.2) and in light of another amendment which had been proposed to paragraph 1, he was withdrawing his amendment (A/C.5/L.1089) in favour of the inclusion of a separate paragraph on the subject in the report (see para. 18 above).

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29. The following amendment (A/C.5/L.1087) was proposed by the delegations of India and Indonesia:

Amend operative paragraph 6 as follows:

Substitute the words "and taking into consideration" for the words "as modified by".

At the 1517th meeting, the representative of India, on behalf of the delegations of India and Indonesia, withdrew the amendment. In so doing he stated that its purpose had been to indicate that the guidelines recommended in paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, while deserving to be taken into consideration, were not binding. However, after carefully studying the reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee, the sponsors had decided to withdraw the amendment (A/C.5/L.1087).

30. At the 1515th meeting, the representative of Indonesia proposed the following amendment (A/C.5/L.1090):

In operative paragraph 7, insert "and the use of its services" after the words "continuation of the Unit".

31. At its 1518th meeting, the Committee proceeded to vote on the amendments before it as follows:

(a) The first of the 16-Power amendments (A/C.5/L.1084) was adopted by a recorded vote of 70 votes to 16, with 11 abstentions.

(b) The amendment submitted by Argentina, Indonesia and Yugoslavia (A/C.5/L.1086/Rev.1) was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

(c) The second of the 16-Power amendments (A/C.5/L.1084) was adopted by 68 votes to 16, with 13 abstentions.

(d) The third of the 16-Power amendments (A/C.5/L.1084) was adopted by 69 votes to 16, with 12 abstentions.

(e) The amendment submitted by Ghana (A/C.5/L.1081) was adopted by 98 votes to none.

(f) The amendment submitted by Indonesia (A/C.5/L.1090) was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

32. The Committee then adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Advisory Committee (A/8835 and Corr.1, annex), as amended, by 97 votes to none, with 1 abstention (see para. 33 below, draft resolution B).

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### III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

33. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### Joint Inspection Unit

##### A

#### Report of the Joint Inspection Unit

##### The General Assembly

Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on its activities covering the period from 1 July 1971 to 30 June 1972, 12/ as transmitted by the Secretary-General.

##### B

#### Continuation of the Joint Inspection Unit

##### The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2150 (XXI) of 4 November 1966, 2360 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2735 A (XXV) of 17 December 1970 relating to the Joint Inspection Unit,

Having considered the views submitted in response to resolution 2735 A (XXV) on the future of the Joint Inspection Unit, 13/

Bearing in mind the report submitted by the Secretary-General 14/ in compliance with General Assembly resolution 2537 B (XXIV) of 11 December 1969 on the machinery of the United Nations system for administrative and budgetary control, investigation and co-ordination,

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12/ A/C.5/1433.

13/ A/C.5/1432, A/C.5/1434, A/C.5/1437, A/C.5/1438 and A/8835 and Corr.1

14/ A/7938.

Noting the concern expressed by the Secretary-General 15/ and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 16/ as well as the views stated in the Fifth Committee about the need to avoid a duplication of efforts and a waste of resources in the activities of the bodies and organs comprising that machinery,

Aware of the need to re-examine and eventually restructure that machinery with a view to improving and streamlining it in the interests of economy and greater efficiency,

Recognizing that the question of the Joint Inspection Unit should be considered in the context of the re-examination mentioned above and its conclusions,

1. Decides that the Joint Inspection Unit should continue in being for a further period of four years beyond 31 December 1973;
2. Decides to review, at its thirty-first session, the machinery of the United Nations and of its system for administrative and budgetary control, investigation and co-ordination, and, for this purpose, requests the views of the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer of the United Nations and as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the relevant views of the governing bodies of the specialized agencies, the Economic and Social Council, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Joint Inspection Unit, as well as the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
3. Further decides to evaluate the work of the Joint Inspection Unit at its thirty-first session, in conjunction with the over-all review provided for in paragraph 2 above;
4. Reaffirms the terms of reference of the Joint Inspection Unit as set out in the second report of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies; 17/
5. Reaffirms the procedures and criteria for the composition and appointment of the Joint Inspection Unit, as similarly set out in the second report of the Ad Hoc Committee; 18/
6. Decides that the term of office of Inspectors should be four years, with the possibility of reappointment;

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15/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 74, document A/C.5/1233; see also E/AC.51/62 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1-5.

16/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/7608 and Corr.1), para. 80.

17/ Ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343, para. 67, sect. B, subpara. (c).

18/ Ibid., subpara. (b).

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit annually to the General Assembly a succinct report on those major recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit, as set forth in reports affecting the United Nations, which have not been implemented, together with the reasons therefor;

8. Directs that the guidelines for the functioning of the Joint Inspection Unit and for the handling of its reports shall be those now in effect pursuant to decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, 19/ as modified by those set out in paragraphs 8 to 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 20/

9. Recommends that the other participating organizations in the United Nations system take appropriate action for the continuation of the Joint Inspection Unit and the use of its services on the basis set out in the present resolution.

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19/ Ibid., subpara. (d); conclusions reached by the joint meetings of CPC and ACC in 1967 (Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Forty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 17, document E/4404); supplementary arrangements for handling the reports of the Unit adopted by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1457 (XLVII) and the further arrangements to this end endorsed by the Fifth Committee at its 1332nd meeting (Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Annexes, agenda item 81, document A/7849, para. 21).

20/ A/8835 and Corr.1