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**Chairman: Mr. Pote SARASIN (Thailand).**

**AGENDA ITEM 48**

**Awards of compensation made by the United Nations Administrative Tribunal: advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (A/2701, A/2837, A/C.5/607, A/C.5/L.321/Rev.1, A/C.5/L.322/Rev.1) (*continued*)**

1. Mr. ASIROGLU (Turkey) said that the Turkish delegation had voted against the amended draft resolution because it could not accept the amendments submitted by the Belgian and other delegations (A/C.5/L.322/Rev.1), and not because it opposed the payment of the awards of compensation made by the Administrative Tribunal or the establishment of a Special Indemnity Fund. He asked for that explanation to be included in the Committee's report.

**AGENDA ITEM 43**

**Administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies: reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/2835, A/C.5/L.319)**

2. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) stated that the Advisory Committee had not attempted to give a complete detailed analysis of the budgets or budget estimates of the specialized agencies. That task, which had been left to the competent organs of the specialized agencies would have been a virtual impossibility for the Advisory Committee, with its heavy programme of work.

3. In its report (A/2835), the Advisory Committee placed the main emphasis on the continuing increase

in the budgets, particularly those of the largest agencies. In examining them the Advisory Committee had taken as its main guide General Assembly resolution 411 (V), which recommended the specialized agencies to stabilize their regular budgets, but the opinions expressed in its report were in no way intended as criticism of the excellent work the agencies were doing. The figures shown following paragraph 2 of the report were not final, particularly so far as UNESCO was concerned. The figure of \$21,617,830 adopted by the UNESCO general conference (A/2835, paragraph 33) was a ceiling, and the budget finally adopted for the two-year period 1955-1956 would probably be slightly less. Similarly, the amount of the final 1955 appropriations would probably be at least \$225,000 lower than the estimates shown in paragraph 32 of the report. That, however, did not affect the validity of the Committee's observations in paragraphs 34 to 38, though it might lead to a reduction in the number of established posts in UNESCO shown in paragraph 12 of the report.

4. Separate reports had already been submitted to the Assembly on some questions closely affecting administrative and budgetary co-ordination. Members of the Fifth Committee should take particular note of paragraphs 8 and 14 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/2835).

5. Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina) said that during the general discussion on the United Nations budget the Argentine delegation had expressed its anxiety (436th meeting) at the continuing increase in the budgets of the specialized agencies, which completely cancelled out the Secretary-General's efforts to reduce the budget of the United Nations. The Advisory Committee's report (A/2835) confirmed that view: the table following paragraph 2 showed that between 1952 and 1955 the United Nations budget had been reduced by 7 per cent, while that of the specialized agencies had increased by 14 per cent. The Argentine delegation accordingly agreed with the Advisory Committee (A/2835, paragraph 6) that fundamental reviews of agency activities might usefully be undertaken at intervals.

6. The Argentine delegation had already drawn attention, at the 468th meeting, to the difficulties to which the Advisory Committee referred in its report on the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (A/2661). Furthermore the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had pointed out in its sixteenth report<sup>1</sup> that the Expanded Programme was still in the experimental stage and that it was most desirable that it should be subject to continuous re-examination.

7. At its 502nd plenary meeting the General Assembly had adopted a resolution (A/RESOLUTION/229)

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Eighteenth Session, Annexes*, agenda items 8 (b) and 26 (a), document E/2607.

recognizing the Advisory Committee's competence with regard to administrative questions affecting the Technical Assistance Programme. In its first report to the ninth session (A/2661), the Advisory Committee had raised a series of questions which called for settlement. The Argentine delegation was therefore reviewing the proposal (A/C.5/L.319) it had made at the 468th meeting that the Advisory Committee should be requested to continue its study of the questions raised in its report (A/2661), such study to be carried out at the headquarters of each of the specialized agencies participating in the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance.

8. In its report on co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies (A/2835, paragraph 18) the Advisory Committee noted that a clearer picture of the general situation and of the problems still remaining for solution was expected when the Secretary-General's review of overseas offices of the United Nations was completed in 1955. It followed, therefore, that the Advisory Committee would prepare a new report on the questions left pending in its previous report (A/2661) and the necessary study should be carried out at the headquarters of the specialized agencies. The Advisory Committee pointed out (A/2835) that it had had an opportunity to discuss the budgets of some specialized agencies with representatives of the heads of those agencies. It was unlikely that such representatives could give the Advisory Committee the specific information it would obtain at the actual headquarters of the agencies. Correspondence and ample documentation were not in themselves sufficient to enable the Advisory Committee to ascertain the real situation.

9. The Argentine delegation therefore felt that the best procedure would be to include its proposal in the Committee's report; if the General Assembly approved the report, the Secretary-General would communicate it to the specialized agencies, which would invite the Advisory Committee to visit their headquarters. There was no question of forcing the Advisory Committee to complete its study within one year, which would place too heavy a burden upon it, but it was important that it should study at close quarters the problems referred to in its previous report (A/2661).

10. Mr. CLOUGH (United Kingdom) reminded the Committee that during the general discussion the United Kingdom delegation had expressed its concern at the continuing increase in the budgets of the specialized agencies, to which the Advisory Committee had referred (A/2688, paragraph 2). The United Kingdom delegation had therefore studied with the keenest interest the Advisory Committee's report (A/2835) which, it felt, should be thoroughly examined by the Fifth Committee, in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 3, of the Charter.

11. The Committee had not, however, received the report until a few days before the end of the session, so that delegations had barely had time to consider it and had been unable to ask their Governments for instructions on those important questions, which concerned several ministries. At that late date the Committee could do no more than it had done at previous sessions: it could take note of the Advisory Committee's report and bring it to the attention of the specialized agencies. That was a regrettable state of affairs,

for under Article 17 of the Charter it was the duty of the General Assembly, and hence of the Fifth Committee, to examine and make recommendations on the budgets of the specialized agencies, which they obviously could not do properly in such a brief space of time. His observations were not intended as criticism of the Advisory Committee, which had a very heavy task to perform; he wondered, however, whether it might not be possible to alter the existing arrangements so as to enable the Fifth Committee to receive the report on that question at a much earlier stage in future, in time to examine it in detail at each session.

12. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee had never questioned the capacities and competence of the representatives of the heads of specialized agencies with whom it had dealings.

13. Should the Fifth Committee so desire, the Advisory Committee would naturally be glad to undertake the study referred to in the Argentine proposal (A/C.5/L.319). Having regard to the provisions of the Charter and the agreements concluded between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, he felt that not only should no new study be undertaken except on the request of the General Assembly, but that there should also be an express invitation from the specialized agency concerned. Furthermore such a study would be of no use unless it was complete—hence, of necessity, extremely long; it must not, however, prevent the Advisory Committee from discharging its normal duties in connexion with the United Nations budget estimates and related questions. If the Argentine proposal was adopted, the Advisory Committee must be able to decide how many specialized agencies it was to visit at their headquarters and the order of the visits. An appropriation of some \$24,000 would then have to be made, to cover a period of not more than five weeks in Europe.

14. Mr. HALL (United States of America) said the United States delegation had been glad to receive the Advisory Committee's report (A/2835) but that it shared the United Kingdom representative's regret that the report had reached the Fifth Committee at such a late stage. He urged the Advisory Committee to take steps to ensure that its report reached all the Governments concerned much earlier in future. The Committee should note the Advisory Committee's observations on the travelling expenses of agency personnel and on documentation and printing costs. Like the United Nations, the specialized agencies would have to intensify their efforts to reduce documentation if they wished to effect savings and maintain their operating efficiency.

15. He had been instructed to ask the Advisory Committee to examine the budgets of the specialized agencies and the Technical Assistance Board (TAB) in more detail. The Charter provided that the General Assembly should examine the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies and it was the Advisory Committee that was responsible for that examination; it should therefore make a more detailed examination than it had done hitherto. For that reason the United States delegation favoured the general purpose of the Argentine proposal (A/C.5/L.319). If the Advisory Committee should visit the headquarters of the specialized

agencies, however, it should be requested also to examine their regular budgets.

16. He had been instructed also to ask the Secretary-General what provisions he proposed to make to facilitate the examination by Governments of the expenditure of TAB. Lastly, he asked whether the Secretary-General, when analysing in detail the special programmes for which no appropriation was made in the United Nations regular budget, would study the possibility of co-ordinating such programmes with those of the specialized agencies where they operated in the same areas.

17. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) stated that the question of TAB's expenditure was also dealt with in the Advisory Committee's first report (A/2661) and that the General Assembly had decided (A/RESOLUTION/229) to refer it to the Economic and Social Council. There was no further action for the Secretary-General to take at present.

18. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) noted the Advisory Committee's report (A/2835) with satisfaction, but associated himself with the request that the Committee should in future endeavour to prepare its report by an earlier date.

19. The Australian Government, too, was concerned at the continuing increase in the budgets of the specialized agencies; nevertheless, it would be well to avoid taking any decision which might convey the impression that the Fifth Committee or the General Assembly sought to impose certain budgetary or administrative rules on the specialized agencies. The Committee was at present studying the co-ordination of the work of completely independent organizations; it could therefore do no more than take note of the Advisory Committee's report, bring it to the attention of the specialized agencies and express the hope that they would take its recommendations into account. In the last analysis it was the responsibility of the Governments to decide what steps should be taken. If a specialized agency considered that one of the most satisfactory means of improving co-ordination was for the Advisory Committee to visit its headquarters, it could always make a proposal to that effect; indeed, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee had stated that he considered such an invitation indispensable.

20. The Australian delegation would consequently be willing to accept the Argentine proposal (A/C.5/L.319) if it was worded to that effect. In its present form, however, it was open to misinterpretation. He therefore felt that it should be left to the Rapporteur to amend the draft resolution so as to take into account the views which had been expressed. The best plan was to authorize the Advisory Committee to give a favourable reception to any invitation it received from a specialized agency, if it considered that a visit to the headquarters of that agency would be of definite value for co-ordination purposes.

21. Mr. BIHIN (Belgium) felt that the specialized agencies should make an effort to reduce their budgets, which were increasing alarmingly every year. It should not be forgotten, however, that the first essential was action by Governments. In addition, the representatives of Governments in the specialized agencies should search their consciences and pay scrupulous attention to the instructions they received, in order to enable each specialized agency to carry out a well-planned

programme and to establish a healthy and logical order of priority in keeping with the resources at the agency's disposal.

22. With regard to the Argentine proposal (A/C.5/L.319), he did not consider it desirable to change the nature of the Advisory Committee by giving it a power of investigation which was not in accordance with its terms of reference. Furthermore, repeated travel might interfere with the activities of the Committee, which had so far been obliged to work rather rapidly, even though it had been able to do so in a comparatively calm atmosphere. The Advisory Committee should have time to reflect; it should not be made too accessible, nor should it be burdened with secondary problems. Hitherto the Advisory Committee had never complained that it lacked sufficient information and had never proposed of its own accord that it should visit the headquarters of the specialized agencies. If the Assembly decided that the Advisory Committee should or could travel, it should not visit more than one specialized agency a year. Furthermore, it would be preferable to authorize the Advisory Committee to travel rather than order it to do so.

23. Hence the Belgian delegation doubted whether it was really necessary to have a draft resolution on the subject. Under its existing terms of reference the Advisory Committee was able to travel. All that was needed, therefore, was for the specialized agencies to invite it to do so. The Belgian delegation could not support the Argentine proposal in its existing form but could accept any suggestion of the type it had indicated.

24. Mr. VAN ASCH VAN WIJCK (Netherlands) expressed regret that such an important document as the thirty-first report of the Advisory Committee (A/2835) had appeared at so late a date and could not be given the study it required. He was sure that the delay was not the fault of the Advisory Committee, and he hoped that at the next session the report on the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies would be submitted to the Fifth Committee at an earlier stage.

25. With regard to the Argentine proposal (A/C.5/L.319), it would indeed be excellent for the Advisory Committee to be able to examine the administrative budgets of TAB and the specialized agencies, but he shared the misgivings of the Australian and Belgian delegations. He thought it would be better if, instead of adopting a formal resolution, the Committee stated in its report that it would be glad if the specialized agencies would invite the Advisory Committee to make investigations on the spot.

26. He agreed with the Belgian representative that the Advisory Committee should not visit the headquarters of more than one specialized agency a year.

27. Mr. PACHACHI (Iraq) observed that in examining the budgets of the specialized agencies it must not be forgotten that those agencies had to face increasing demands, particularly in respect of technical assistance to under-developed countries. Instead of being reduced, their work would have to be still further expanded, for the specialized agencies would be failing in their duty if they had to reject requests for assistance presented by under-developed countries who were struggling against disease and illiteracy. While some saving might perhaps be effected by better organization, it was natural and necessary that the

expenditure of the specialized agencies should continue to increase.

28. The report of the Advisory Committee (A/2835) contained some interesting observations, but with regard to travel of staff on official business, he would like to point out that owing to the nature of the work performed by the specialized agencies such travel was often indispensable. He was equally convinced that the regional inter-governmental committees referred to in paragraphs 53 and 54 of the Advisory Committee's report had a very useful part to play, for they were in a particularly good position to ascertain the real needs of the regions. He keenly hoped, therefore, that the present system would be retained.

29. He shared the views of the Australian, Belgian and Netherlands delegations on the Argentine proposal (A/C.5/L.319). The Advisory Committee must be entirely free to accept or refuse the invitations of specialized agencies, if it received any. If Argentina withdrew its proposal, the delegate of Iraq would not object to the inclusion in the report of a statement that the Advisory Committee would be authorized to accept invitations from the specialized agencies.

30. Mr. KOSTIC (Yugoslavia) wished to reserve his Government's position on the Advisory Committee's report, so that he could study the document more thoroughly.

31. While he recognized that the circumstances mentioned by the Argentine representative might be a matter of legitimate concern to the Committee, it seemed to him that it would be difficult to eliminate certain items of specialized agency expenditure. In any case, he did not think the formula advocated by the Argentine delegation was satisfactory, for if the desired results were to be achieved it was essential that there should be full co-operation between the Advisory Committee and specialized agencies. Moreover, the Argentine proposal raised constitutional problems, to which a number of delegations had referred. In the circumstances, he would prefer the solution suggested by Australia, namely, that the Advisory Committee should be authorized to accept invitations addressed to it by the specialized agencies. If the Argentine proposal was to be included in the Committee's report, it should be made clear that it did not represent the views of the whole Committee.

32. Mr. SAPRU (India) congratulated the Advisory Committee on its report and expressed regret that the Fifth Committee had not received it earlier. While the budgets of the specialized agencies might perhaps contain some unnecessary items of expenditure, it must not be forgotten that the agencies did very important work and rendered invaluable service to the under-developed countries. As the representative of Iraq had pointed out, their activities should not be restricted, but expanded. The Indian delegation, for its part, saw no reason why the Advisory Committee should not examine the administrative and budgetary practices of the specialized agencies at their respective headquarters.

33. Mr. CHECHYOTKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said the USSR delegation had made a very thorough study of the Advisory Committee's reports on the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the United Nations and the special-

ized agencies. They contained a number of very interesting but unfortunately inadequate recommendations. The Advisory Committee had not studied thoroughly enough the administrative structure of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance carried out by the specialized agencies. Efforts should be made to use the available funds to better advantage and to prevent administrative costs from increasing to the detriment of operational costs. He therefore welcomed the Argentine delegation's proposal (A/C.5/L.319). Reference had been made to the legal difficulties it raised, but in view of the provisions of Article 17 of the Charter and the explanations the Chairman of the Advisory Committee had given, there should be nothing to prevent the proposal from being accepted. By giving the Advisory Committee a specific task, the Fifth Committee would undoubtedly contribute to the success of the programmes.

34. Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina), referring to the constitutional difficulties mentioned by a number of delegations, said that the Argentine proposal was in fact designed to ensure the application of the provisions of Article 17, paragraph 3, of the Charter, which provided that the General Assembly should "consider and approve any financial and budgetary arrangements with specialized agencies" . . . and "examine the administrative budgets of such specialized agencies with a view to making recommendations to the agencies concerned". The proposal was also in accordance with rule 158 of the Assembly's rules of procedure and was based on the agreements with the United Nations freely concluded by the various specialized agencies.

35. He for his part was convinced that the specialized agencies would be glad to extend invitations to the Advisory Committee so that the vexed question could be settled once and for all. It was not a matter of reducing the budgets of all the specialized agencies, as the Iraqi representative seemed to fear. It might even be that some agencies needed additional appropriations, particularly for their technical assistance work.

36. The suggestion that the Advisory Committee should visit only one specialized agency each year seemed rather unreasonable, for at that rate it would take the Advisory Committee eight years to study the administrative and budgetary methods of all the specialized agencies at their respective headquarters. The Advisory Committee should be left free to organize its work as it thought best. The Argentine delegation did not mean that the Advisory Committee should immediately start a tour of inspection of the specialized agencies without invitation. Its sole object was that the Committee should have before it at the next session a report containing specific recommendations based on a complete study of the facts.

37. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) said that in his opinion the problem involved too many unknown quantities for the Committee to be able to reach a decision before certain points had been cleared up.

38. In the first place, it was legitimate to ask what mission the Fifth Committee could give the Advisory Committee under the present constitutional arrangements. All the functions of the Advisory Committee, including those relating to the specialized agencies, were laid down in rule 158 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure, but the rules of procedure of the

specialized agencies did not necessarily recognize or reproduce the provisions of rule 158. If the Advisory Committee was to be welcomed by the specialized agencies, therefore, formal arrangements for its visits must be made in advance.

39. In the second place, the Advisory Committee would undoubtedly be able to make valuable recommendations, but unfortunately they might remain a dead letter. Under the agreements between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, the Advisory Committee examined the administrative budgets of each organization. That examination did not produce sufficient data, and the Advisory Committee could not look into the administrative apparatus of the specialized agencies with a view to subsequent changes, as it could in the case of the United Nations.

40. In the third place, it would be better to ask the Advisory Committee to study the operation of the specialized agencies as a whole, rather than to study details. Above all, it was necessary to specify what functions were to be exercised by the United Nations and the specialized agencies, to decide what action was desirable from the point of view of budgetary theory and practice and to distribute responsibilities in such a way as to avoid overlapping.

41. In the fourth place, it was imperative that nothing should be initiated until certain fundamental terms had been clearly defined. In the case of the report on the administrative costs of the Expanded Programme, for example, it had been seen how difficult it was to distinguish clearly between the three principal categories of expenditure: administrative costs, indirect operational costs and direct project costs. If the General Assembly itself failed to clarify such fundamental ideas, it was difficult to see what purpose would be served by a study of the operation of the specialized agencies based on the same vague terms as those at present in use.

42. In conclusion, he said it was important first to clarify the fundamental terms; the Committee would then ask the Advisory Committee to examine the whole work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and to make recommendations on the budgetary and administrative arrangements to be concluded with those agencies. The details of operation should undoubtedly be studied. Regional activities, for example, might be screened; it might be asked to what extent they were properly regional, whether activities relating to only part of a given region and to countries outside that region could be described as regional, and whether activities described as regional did not include action of quite a different nature. At that stage, however, there must be no concentration on details until agreement had been reached on the important questions.

43. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) endorsed the Israel representative's observations on the constitutional problem, and warned the Fifth Committee of the danger of exceeding the powers the Charter gave the General Assembly in Article 17, paragraph 3. Besides the Charter, there was another legislative text to which the Committee could refer: resolution 722 (VIII) on the Expanded Programme, particularly paragraph 5 of the operative part. If the Committee based its decisions on that text, which the specialized agencies had accepted, there would be no

danger of the application of its decisions giving rise to difficulties. Lastly, if the Committee decided to adopt the Argentine proposal in one form or another, it should ask the Advisory Committee to take action in the matter only if such action did not interfere with its ordinary work, which must have priority.

44. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) (Rapporteur) asked the Argentine representative whether he would agree that instead of the resolution the Committee should include in its report a paragraph worded as follows:

"The Fifth Committee authorizes the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to respond favourably to any invitation received from a specialized agency to continue at the headquarters of such agency the study of administrative and budgetary co-ordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, including the questions raised in its first report to the ninth session of the General Assembly (A/2661), if in its judgment such a course would be desirable and practicable in the light of the Advisory Committee's existing responsibilities under its terms of reference."

45. That text took into account the Argentine proposal, the opinion of other delegations and the wishes of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee.

46. Mr. CAFIERO (Argentina) stated that, after hearing the observations of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, he was prepared to accept that solution; but for the tenth session he would like the Committee to have before it a report by the Advisory Committee, or at least a document indicating which specialized agencies had invited the Advisory Committee.

47. Dr. COIGNY (World Health Organization) said that the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) had always welcomed the Advisory Committee's remarks concerning the administrative budget of WHO and related administrative problems and he would like to give some explanations regarding certain observations in the Advisory Committee's report (A/2835).

48. To begin with, the substantial increase in the 1955 budget, as compared with that of 1954 (paragraph 51), was not due to an increase in headquarters staff, but to an increase in staff costs under the regulations, to the publication of certain documents in Spanish and, above all, to an expansion of the programme. Secondly, the seventh World Health Assembly's decision (paragraph 52) did not mean that WHO was abandoning its basic policy of an integrated health programme, but merely that the Assembly wished that adjustments made in one of the programmes, owing to reduced appropriations, should not have unfortunate repercussions on the other programme, as had happened in the past. Thirdly, it was true that regional directors and regional inter-governmental committees played an important role in the preparation of annual programmes, as the report pointed out (paragraph 54); but the World Health Assembly was nonetheless exclusively responsible for examining and approving the programme and the annual budget of WHO.

49. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) thanked the WHO representative for the explanations he had given, explanations which he had been glad to hear. With regard to the preparation of

the budget, the Advisory Committee had acknowledged in its report (paragraph 54) that WHC had avoided certain situations to which the procedure used might have given rise.

50. The CHAIRMAN put to the vote the following resolution:

*"The General Assembly*

*"1. Takes note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions dealing with the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies for 1955 (A/2835);*

*"2. Invites the attention of the specialized agencies to the recommendations and suggestions made in the Advisory Committee's report and to the views expressed in the Fifth Committee at the ninth session of the General Assembly."*

*The draft resolution was adopted by 34 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.*

**Financial implications of draft resolutions adopted by other Committees of the General Assembly:**

**(a) Draft resolution I submitted by the Third Committee concerning agenda item 12\* (A/2842; A/C.3/L.432; A/C.5/609)**

51. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Advisory Committee (A/2842) did not consider it necessary to increase the estimate by \$23,500 for section 18 of the budget estimates for 1955 (A/2647) as requested by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/609) and had suggested that the cost could be financed out of savings on section 18 or, if such savings could not be anticipated at the material date, out of savings on other sections of the 1955 budget.

52. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) pointed out that the Secretary-General was not at present in a position to give an assurance that he would be able to finance the establishment of the laboratory out of savings on the 1955 budget. He would spare no effort to do so, but hoped, if he did not succeed, that the Advisory Committee would authorize him to draw on the Working Capital Fund to meet such commitments as were required.

53. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that that seemed to him a reasonable solution.

54. Mr. LIVERAN (Israel) (Rapporteur) noted that the Third Committee was proposing to the General Assembly the establishment of a United Nations narcotics laboratory at Geneva. It was not the function of the Committee to decide on the desirability of establishing such a laboratory, but it would appear entitled to have some say as to the place where the laboratory was to be established, as that was an administrative question which lay within the competence of the Fifth Committee.

55. Mr. HALL (United States of America) associated himself with the Rapporteur's comments. He would vote for the Advisory Committee's recommendation, as it was understood that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs would have an opportunity at its next

session to reconsider the general aspects of the laboratory programme.

56. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should inform the General Assembly that, if the Assembly were to adopt the resolution proposed by the Third Committee, on the United Nations narcotics laboratory, the net commitments would be \$23,500. That expenditure could be met from savings on the 1955 budget, rather than from a supplementary appropriation for the purpose. If that proved impossible, the Secretary-General would request the Advisory Committee for authorization to include the expenditure in the supplementary estimates for 1955.

*That proposal was adopted by 32 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.*

**(b) Draft resolution submitted by the Ad Hoc Political Committee concerning agenda item 23\* (A/C.5/616, A/AC.76/L.22)**

57. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Advisory Committee had not yet had an opportunity to prepare a report on the subject, and that the Secretary-General (A/C.5/616) had suggested, in view of the impossibility of estimating the financial implications of the draft resolution, the addition of the necessary paragraph to the draft resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses.

58. Mr. CLOUGH (United Kingdom) and Mr. CUTTS (Australia) hoped that the Secretary-General would ask the consent of the Advisory Committee before meeting from the Working Capital Fund commitments as were required for the United Nations Commission on the Racial Situation in the Union of South Africa.

59. Mr. ANDERSEN (Secretariat) said that the Secretary-General agreed to that procedure.

60. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should inform the General Assembly that, if it adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Ad Hoc Political Committee on the question of race conflict in South Africa (A/AC.76/L.22), the draft resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditure would have to be amended so as to authorize the Secretary-General to meet from the Working Capital Fund such commitments as were required.

*That proposal was adopted by 34 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.*

61. Mr. THERON (Union of South Africa) said that his delegation had voted against the proposal because it considered the Commission on the Racial Situation in the Union of South Africa an illegal body, and did not think that the General Assembly was competent to deal with the matter.

**(c) Draft resolution B submitted by the Fourth Committee concerning agenda item 13\*\* (A/C.4/L.366, A/C.5/617)**

62. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that there was no recommendation by the Advisory Committee on that question either, and that the Secretary-General

\*The question of race conflict in South Africa resulting from the policies of *apartheid* of the Government of the Union of South Africa.

\*\*Report of the Trusteeship Council, concerning the question of the frontier between the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration and Ethiopia.

\* Report of the Economic and Social Council; draft resolution I concerns the United Nations narcotic laboratory.

had proposed a formula similar to that adopted for the previous draft resolution.

63. Mr. HALL (United States of America) suggested that the same method should be followed.

64. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should inform the General Assembly that, if it adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee on the question of the frontier between the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration and Ethiopia (A/C.4/L.366), the draft resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses should be amended so as to authorize the Sec-

retary-General to meet from the Working Capital Fund such commitments as were required, with the consent of the Advisory Committee.

*That proposal was adopted by 30 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

65. Mr. CHECHYOTKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) explained that he had voted against the proposal because he thought that the question should be settled by the two sovereign States concerned, without the intervention of the United Nations.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.