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Agenda items 60 and 96

FOOD PROBLEMS

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1976-1977 AND MEDIUM-  
TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1976-1979

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution  
recommended by the Second Committee (A/10394, para. 9)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed ABOUL GHEIT (Egypt)

1. At its 1767th meeting, on 11 December 1975, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1735) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee (A/10394, para. 9).
2. Under the terms of paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to make available to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries amounts not exceeding \$22,000 and, to a preparatory commission of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, amounts not exceeding \$604,500, provided that these amounts are to be repaid by the Fund as soon as possible after it has been established and resources become available to it.
3. In his statement (A/C.5/1735), the Secretary-General indicated that, while the cost of servicing the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was estimated at \$22,000, the future requirements of the preparatory commission could not yet be estimated with precision and that, on the assumption that the commission would nevertheless require the services of a small secretariat as well as conference services, he estimated the cost of the preparatory commission at \$604,500, to which should be added an amount of \$34,000 in staff assessment.

4. The statement also indicated that, since it was understood that the International Fund for Agricultural Development would reimburse the United Nations for the amounts advanced to it to service the Conference of Plenipotentiaries and the preparatory commission, a corresponding provision was requested under income sections 2 (Miscellaneous income) and 1 (Staff assessment).

5. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions introduced the Committee's report (A/10008/Add.19). The Advisory Committee concurred in the request of \$22,000 to cover the cost of servicing the Conference of Plenipotentiaries but, noting that the Secretary-General was unable to estimate precisely the future requirements of the preparatory commission, it recommended a reduction in the estimate of the cost of the commission from \$604,500 to \$272,000. A corresponding reduction of \$14,000 was recommended in the estimate for staff assessment.

#### DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it approve the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee (A/10394, para. 9), an additional appropriation of \$294,000 would be required under section 1 and \$20,000 under section 25 of the programme budget for 1976-1977 and that the estimates under income sections 1 and 2 would be increased by \$20,000 and \$294,000, respectively.

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