



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERALA/46/774
13 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 120

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) (A/46/759). During its consideration of the above item, representatives of the Secretary-General provided additional information to the Advisory Committee.
2. In view of the late submission of the Secretary-General's report on the financing of UNAVEM and the urgent need for the General Assembly to complete its consideration and appropriate the necessary funds for this operation, the Advisory Committee is presenting only an abbreviated report on this matter that summarizes its recommendations. It is hoped that in future reports the Advisory Committee can revert to its traditional format for analysis of the Secretary-General's proposals and submission of its recommendations thereon.
3. As indicated in paragraph 5 of the report, assessments totalling \$66.8 million have been apportioned to Member States in respect of UNAVEM for the period from inception to 30 November 1991, against which contributions totalling \$43.8 million have been received, leaving a balance due of \$23 million. The Secretary-General recommends in paragraph 14 of his report that no action be taken at this time in connection with the projected net unencumbered balance of \$1,021,200, as well as the interest and miscellaneous income of \$443,100 and that those amounts be retained in the UNAVEM II Special Account pending the receipt of the outstanding assessed contributions". In view of the deficit of \$21.3 million in the UNAVEM account, the Advisory Committee does not object to the Secretary-General's recommendation at this stage; however, it intends to review the question of crediting unencumbered balances to Member States at a later stage.
4. In paragraph 13 of the report, the Secretary-General estimates the revised cost for the remaining 10-month period of UNAVEM II from 1 January to

31 October 1992 at \$53,595,900 gross (\$52,577,500 net), representing a reduction of \$9,854,600 gross (\$10,149,000 net) from the initial cost estimates (A/45/1028). In this connection, no provision is made for the costs associated to the closing of the Mission at the end of the current mandate period.

5. The Committee recalls that substantial savings were made in military and civilian personnel and staff costs for the period from 1 June to 31 December 1991 due the late phasing-in of personnel. The Committee was informed that United Nations personnel may not be deployed to 4 of 50 assembly areas, as envisaged in the operational plan (A/45/1028, para. 11 (f)), for security reasons and due to logistical difficulties. The Committee understands that the planned 350 military observers and 90 police observers is at present not at full strength and varies during their rotation in the mission area, which will result in further savings.

6. The Secretary-General proposes, in annex VI, paragraph 3, of the report to establish one additional P-4 post (political officer) and one P-3 (interpreter/translator); no explanation is provided in his report. The Committee was not convinced of the need of an additional political officer, in addition to the current senior political adviser (D-1), and does not concur in that proposal; however, the Committee has no objection to an additional interpreter/translator in view of the operational requirements.

7. The Secretary-General proposes, in annex VI, paragraph 5 (a), the purchase of 40 additional vehicles at an average of \$14,200. The Committee is of the view that the acquisition of 40 new vehicles can be reduced, taking into account that a 374-vehicle fleet was established at UNAVEM in 1991 and that a large part of the mission is carried out by air operations.

8. The Committee notes that the estimates for air operations, including \$9.6 million for helicopter operations and \$8.5 million for fixed-wing aircraft are high, taking into account the substantial savings during the period from 1 June to 31 December 1991. The Committee was not fully convinced of the need for the continued commercial hiring of 12 medium-size utility helicopters for ten months at a monthly rent of \$70,400 per unit for 55 minimum monthly flight hours and 3 fixed-wing aircraft for \$6.7 million until the completion of the mission. The Committee believes that there is a possibility for savings without affecting the mandate of UNAVEM.

9. In view of its observations in paragraphs 5 to 8 above and taking into account the possibility for other savings and the number of uncertainties with regard to the scope of the operation, the Committee recommends that an amount of \$42,876,720 gross (\$42,062,000 net) be appropriated and assessed at this stage and that additional commitment authority up to \$10,719,180 gross (\$10,515,500 net) be authorized with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the basis of a performance report on UNAVEM to be submitted to the Advisory Committee at its spring 1992 session.