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Agenda item 136 (a)FINANCING OF THE ACTIVITIES ARISING FROM SECURITY
COUNCIL RESOLUTION 687 (1991):

(a) UNITED NATIONS IRAQ-KUWAIT OBSERVATION 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 activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) concerning the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) (A/46/746). During its consideration of the item, representatives of the Secretary-General provided additional information to the Committee.
2. In view of the late submission of the Secretary-General's report on the financing of UNIKOM 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 which 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 stated in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's report, by its resolution 45/260 of 3 May 1991, the General Assembly appropriated an amount of \$60,977,000 gross (\$60 million net) for the operation of UNIKOM from 9 April to 8 October 1991; assessments totalling \$60,296,777 were apportioned among Member States (A/46/746, para. 4). The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report that an unencumbered balance of \$5,157,800 gross (\$4,939,500 net) exists in respect of this period; however, in paragraph 10 the Secretary-General recommends that "in light of the outstanding assessed contributions of \$20,684,193 that remain uncollected ... no action be taken, at this time, in connection with the unencumbered balance". In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee concurs in this request.

4. The Advisory Committee notes from annexes I and II that substantial savings were realized under, in particular, civilian staff costs, helicopter operations, and freight and cartage; these were partially offset by overruns under other objects of expenditure. The Advisory Committee further notes that the savings under civilian staff costs relate to vacancies for international staff and delays in employing local staff; at the end of the mandate period (8 October 1991), 16 international posts remained vacant.

5. The Secretary-General estimates the cost of UNIKOM for the period 9 October 1991 to 8 October 1992 at \$72,382,200 gross (\$70,480,200 net); a summary of that estimate and supplementary information are provided in annexes IV and V respectively of the Secretary-General's report. As indicated in paragraph 11, the Secretary-General is requesting an appropriation for one half of that amount, i.e. \$36,191,100 gross (\$35,240,100 net) in respect of the six-month period from 9 October 1991 to 8 April 1992, and "provision by means of appropriation and/or commitment authorization" for the six-month period after 8 April 1992, should the Security Council decide to continue UNIKOM beyond that date.

6. The Advisory Committee notes that annex V, under each subheading, compares the revised apportionment of the preceding six-month period with the estimate for the subsequent 12 months. The Advisory Committee recommends that in future, the periods compared be of the same duration.

7. The Advisory Committee notes that the estimates for the period 9 October 1991 to 8 October 1992 are based in some instances on different assumptions than the previous estimates, e.g. number of military and civilian personnel. The estimates include, as before, provision for six helicopters; however, in the case of fixed-wing aircraft, provision has been included for the commercial hire of a fixed-wing aircraft which would supplement the two fixed-wing aircraft provided by the Government of Switzerland. The Advisory Committee also notes from paragraphs 78 and 79 that \$6.2 million has been included for observation equipment as described therein. The amount includes \$5.4 million for six Ground Surveillance Radars.

8. The Advisory Committee discussed this at some length with representatives of the Secretary-General. The Committee was informed that systems are currently being tested and that once it is determined which system best meets the requirements of UNIKOM various Governments will be approached with a view to ascertaining whether such a system could be made available. If not, bids would be invited. The Committee was further informed that the cost of \$5.4 million was indicative only.

9. The Committee is of the view that savings may be realized under a variety of objects in line with the experience during the first mandate period. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve an estimate in the amount of \$33.6 million gross for the financing of UNIKOM for the period 9 October 1991 to 8 April 1992.

10. Subject to the decision to be taken by the Security Council on the renewal of the mandate of UNIKOM after 8 April 1992, the Advisory Committee is of the view that requirements for UNIKOM for the period 9 April to 8 October 1992 should, at this time, not exceed \$33.6 million gross. On that basis, the Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly approve commitment authority up to the level of \$5.6 million per month for the six-month period beginning 9 April 1992, subject to the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee. In approving the actual level of commitments, the Advisory Committee would take into consideration the latest information to be submitted by the Secretary-General concerning the operations and mandate of UNIKOM.
