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Official Records

FIFTH COMMITTEE
77th meeting
held on
Monday, 19 September 1994
at 10 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SECOND PART* OF THE 77TH MEETING

Chairman: Mrs. EMERSON (Portugal)
(Vice-Chairman)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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* The summary record of the first part of the meeting, held on Friday, 16 September 1994, appears as document A/C.5/48/SR.77.

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In the absence of Mr. Hadid (Algeria), Mrs. Emerson (Portugal),
Vice-Chairman took the Chair.

The meeting was reconvened at 10 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 123: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995 (continued)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/48/L.63/Rev.2 concerning
agenda item 40 (continued)

Draft report of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/48/L.91)

1. Ms. SHEAROUSE (United States of America) said that paragraph 3 (a) of document A/C.5/48/L.91 should be redrafted to make it clear that there was a full commitment authority for the complete mandate period. Paragraph 3 (d) should be the subject of a separate decision, in accordance with Fifth Committee practice. Her delegation would welcome brief informal consultations to resolve those points.

The meeting was suspended at 10.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.05 a.m.

2. The CHAIRMAN said that, following informal consultations, the chapeau to paragraph 3 should be amended to read "The Fifth Committee ... the recommendations of the Advisory Committee (A/48/7/Add.17) relating to the establishment of a mission for an initial period of six months decided ...". Paragraph 3 (a) should be amended to read:

"(a) The Secretary-General would be authorized to enter into commitments in an initial amount of \$7.5 million under section 4 of the programme budget for 1994-1995, the question of the final level of the authorization for the mandate period to be determined in the light of the subsequent review of revised budget proposals referred in subparagraph (b) below;"

3. Paragraph 3 (b) should be amended by the addition at the end of the paragraph of the words "for its immediate consideration"; paragraph (d) would be deleted and would be the subject of a separate decision; and old paragraph (e) would become new paragraph (d).

4. Mr. STITT (United Kingdom) said that the insertion to be made in the chapeau to paragraph 3 was to have been somewhat fuller.

5. Mr. BIVERO (Venezuela) said that his understanding was that agreement had been reached in the informal consultations to amend the chapeau to read "... programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/48/84) relating to the establishment of a Human Rights Verification Mission in Guatemala for an initial period of six months and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee ...".

6. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the draft report, as orally amended.
7. The draft report, as orally amended, was adopted.
8. Mrs. SHEAROUSE (United States of America) said that her delegation had supported adoption of the decision contained in the draft report on the basis of a Secretariat statement that the Secretary-General was being given authority for the full six months of the mandate.
9. Mr. MÜNCH (Germany), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the member States of the European Union reaffirmed their support for the Human Rights Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) and trusted that the revised budget to be submitted would respect the spirit of the compromise reached in the Committee. He hoped that the Secretary-General would establish a trust fund, as requested earlier by his delegation on behalf of the European Union.
10. The CHAIRMAN said that it was her understanding that a trust fund was to be established.
11. Mr. BIVERO (Venezuela) said that the revised budget to be submitted must enable the Mission to discharge its mandate and maintain its operational capacity without detriment to the medium- and long-term political objectives involved. The Mission should enjoy the support of all Member States.
12. Mr. DAMICO (Brazil) said that the review of ways and means to reduce the cost of the Mission specified in paragraph 3 (b) should be without prejudice to full implementation of the Mission mandate.
13. The CHAIRMAN said that it had been agreed during the informal consultations to replace old paragraph 3 (d) of the draft decision by a new draft decision, to read:

"The General Assembly, taking note of the Secretary-General's proposal contained in document A/C.5/48/84 regarding payments to other missions for the transfer of vehicles and surplus equipment, requests the Secretary-General to make provisions for such payments, should the General Assembly decide to approve the procedure outlined in its decision 48/496, these amounts to be included in the revised budget indicated in subparagraph (b) of the decision contained in document A/C.5/48/L.91."
14. Mr. STITT (United Kingdom) said that the proposed draft decision was consistent with decision 48/496.
15. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to adopt the draft decision.
16. The draft decision was adopted.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.