



Seventh session
Agenda item 42

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1953

Section 31a - Headquarters construction costs

Seventeenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the seventh session of the General Assembly

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered a report by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/511) proposing the inclusion in the 1953 budget of an appropriation of \$1 million under section 31a - Headquarters construction costs.
2. In November 1947, the General Assembly authorized expenditure not exceeding \$65 million for the construction of the permanent Headquarters of the United Nations (resolution 183 (II), paragraph 3 (b), of 20 November 1947).
3. At its sixth session, the General Assembly increased the expenditure authorization by \$3 million to the total figure of \$68 million and for this purpose:
 - (a) Appropriated \$1 million in the 1952 budget under section 31a - Headquarters construction costs (resolution 592 (VI) of 4 February 1952);
 - (b) Authorized the Secretary-General to advance from the Working Capital Fund as required, sums not exceeding \$2 million (resolution 585 B (VI), paragraph 5 (h), of 4 February 1952).
4. The Advisory Committee has been informed that the present position is as shown in the following table:

	<u>Dollars (US)</u>
Total expenditure authorized (General Assembly resolutions 182 (II), 585 B (VI), 592 (VI))	68,000,000
Disbursements to date	<u>63,664,000</u>
Balance of authorization available for completion of the construction programme	4,336,000
Estimated disbursements to 30 June 1953	3,294,000
Estimated expenditure after 30 June 1953	<u>1,042,000</u> 4,336,000
 <u>Cash available:</u>	
Under Loan Agreement(\$65,000,000)	1,336,000
1952 appropriation	<u>1,000,000</u> 2,336,000
Estimated additional cash requirements during period 1 January to 30 June 1953	958,000

5. In reporting^{1/} on the revised budget for the construction programme which was submitted to the General Assembly at its sixth session^{2/}, the Advisory Committee referred to the difficulty of making specific or detailed recommendations, in view of the fact that it had not been directly associated at any stage with the financial and budgetary aspects of the programme.

6. Subject to this reservation, and on the basis of the figures submitted to it, the Advisory Committee recommends the appropriation of \$1 million under section 31 Headquarters construction costs - of the 1953 budget and the inclusion in the draft resolution relating to the Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1953^{3/} of a sub-paragraph providing for advances of sums, as required, not exceeding \$1 million in total, to finance the completion of the construction programme.

1/ A/2065 (paragraph 4), Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Annexes, agenda item 46.

2/ A/1895/Add.1 (paragraph 5), Ibid.

3/ A/2157 (chapter I, appendix III), Ibid, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.