



Chairman: Mr. E. Olu SANU (Nigeria).

AGENDA ITEM 82

**ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE
FIRST COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/8583 CON-
CERNING AGENDA ITEM 32* (A/C.5/1419)**

1. Mr. RHODES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), commenting on the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/1419) of the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the First Committee (A/8583, para. 9), said that the Advisory Committee agreed with the Secretary-General's estimate of the amount required to reproduce the report referred to in the draft resolution. He wished to point out, however, that the request addressed to the Secretary-General in the draft resolution was imprecise; the report in question had appeared in two parts (A/8469 and Add.1), and it was not clear whether the intention had been to authorize reproduction of the first part only or of both parts. The Secretary-General had based his statement on the latter assumption. It was to be hoped that in future an effort would be made to be more specific in regard to requests which had financial implications.

2. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee decided to request the Rapporteur to inform the General Assembly directly that, should it adopt the draft resolution of the First Committee, an additional appropriation of \$34,400 would be required under section 11 of the budget estimates for 1972.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 78

Pattern of conferences (concluded):**

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General (concluded):**
- (b) Report of the Joint Inspection Unit (concluded)**

**Draft report of the Fifth Committee to the
General Assembly (A/C.5/XXVI/CRP.47/Rev.1)**

3. The CHAIRMAN noted that the Rapporteur had prepared a revised version of the draft report of the Fifth Committee on the item (A/C.5/XXVI/CRP.47/Rev.1) and said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee approved the report, as revised.

It was so decided.

* Economic and social consequences of the armaments race and its extremely harmful effects on world peace and security: report of the Secretary-General.

** Resumed from the 1471st meeting.

Implementation of the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies: report of the Secretary-General (concluded)*** (A/8482, A/8503, A/C.5/1363 and Add.1, A/C.5/1368, A/C.5/1375, A/C.5/XXVI/CRP.49/Rev.1)

**Form of presentation of the budget
(concluded)*** (A/C.5/XXVI/CRP.49/Rev.1)**

4. Mr. MERIGO AZA (Mexico) suggested that the Spanish text of document A/C.5/XXVI/CRP.49/Rev.1 would read better if the last clause in subparagraph (b), beginning with the words "*teniendo presente*", was placed immediately after the numerical (ii) in that subparagraph.

5. The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretariat would take the suggested drafting change into account in the preparation of the final report.

6. Mr. BENNET (New Zealand) observed that the word "biannual" in the English text of subparagraph (b) was incorrect and should be changed to "biennial".

7. Mr. MARRON (Spain), supported by Mr. MSELLE (United Republic of Tanzania), pointed out that subparagraph (c) still left open the possibility that the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions might be delayed so as to comply with the request to take into account the comments and suggestions of the Economic and Social Council and its Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. It was essential that the Advisory Committee's report should be ready in time for the twenty-seventh session, and he could not support subparagraph (c) if its adoption would in any way impede progress on the report.

8. Mr. RHODES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that it would indeed be difficult, if not impossible, for the Advisory Committee to prepare a report for submission to the twenty-seventh session, as envisaged in subparagraph (a), if it had to take into account the comments and suggestions of the Economic and Social Council and CPC. It might, however, be possible to submit to the General Assembly at some time during its twenty-seventh session an addendum to the Secretary-General's report, setting out the Advisory Committee's views on the comments and suggestions referred to. He hoped, however, that the wording of

*** Resumed from the 1480th meeting.

subparagraph (c) could sustain the interpretation that the Advisory Committee would be free to proceed in accordance with its established time-table and to utilize whatever information would be available to it in implementing the provisions of subparagraph (a).

9. The CHAIRMAN said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Committee approved the inclusion in its report of the text contained in document A/C.5/XXVI/CRP.49/Rev.1, on the understanding that subparagraph (c) should not be interpreted to mean that the Advisory Committee must wait for the comments and suggestions of the Economic and Social Council and CPC before proceeding with its work on the basis of whatever information was available.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 84

Personnel questions (continued) (A/8408/Add.20 and 21, A/8454, A/8483, A/8545, A/8552, A/8565, A/C.5/1371, A/C.5/1398 and Add.1, A/C.5/1404, A/C.5/1408, A/C.5/L.1061 and Add.1)

(b) Other personnel questions (continued) (A/8408/Add.20 and 21, A/8454, A/8545, A/8552, A/8565, A/C.5/1371, A/C.5/1398 and Add.1, A/C.5/1404, A/C.5/1408)

Staff training (concluded)* (A/8408/Add.21, A/C.5/1404)

10. Chief ADEBO (Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research) said that he wished to reply briefly to some of the objections that had been raised concerning the proposal to establish a United Nations staff college. It had been said that the discussions he had held with the executive heads of the specialized agencies were insufficient and that the proposals relating to the establishment of a staff college should be submitted to the legislative organs of the specialized agencies for examination and decision. He could not agree with that view, which, if consistently applied, would mean that every routine executive decision would have to be reviewed and approved by legislative organs. If that approach were adopted, no work would ever get done. As far as the proposal to set up a staff college was concerned, all that was required of the legislative organs was that they should agree in principle to the establishment of the college and provide the necessary funds. The multifarious details concerning the organization of courses, the selection of participants, the subjects to be taught and the appointment of faculty members and supporting staff could all be dealt with by the executive heads of the organizations concerned.

11. The staff college was not intended to supplant entirely the training programmes currently operated by the various agencies; its mission would be to eliminate unnecessary and uneconomical duplication of courses and to co-ordinate interagency training programmes. If the General Assembly failed to act at the current session to set up the staff college, that would simply mean that the currently overlapping programmes would continue for another year,

complicating even further the task which would ultimately face the college administration in rationalizing training procedures throughout the United Nations system.

12. The specialized agencies, with the exception of IBRD and IMF, had all been associated with the feasibility study and had all carefully considered the proposal to establish a college. Everyone he had contacted was eager to commence operations in 1972. It would indeed be regrettable if, after hearing of the unanimous support accorded to the proposal by the specialized agencies, the General Assembly should hold back and refuse to exercise the leadership expected of it.

13. While fully appreciating the straitened financial circumstances of the United Nations, he felt that it would be a mistake to delay the establishment of the college for the sake of short-term economy. The continuation of the current inefficient system would, in the long run, cost the Organization more in terms of unnecessary duplication of effort than the modest amount required to launch the college. It had been suggested that in the initial phase the college should try to operate on the \$200,000 pledged by UNDP. Unfortunately, the UNDP allocation was contingent upon a favourable decision by the General Assembly, and in any event the sum of \$200,000 would be insufficient even to make a start on the project.

14. Mr. MSELLE (United Republic of Tanzania) said that, while he had the highest personal regard for the Executive Director of UNITAR, he had serious doubts as to the wisdom of approving an appropriation for the proposed staff college at the current session. His delegation endorsed the idea of a staff college and considered that the costs of running it should be borne by the regular budgets of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. He did not agree with those who maintained that the college should be financed out of voluntary contributions to UNITAR. Despite UNITAR's leading role in laying the groundwork for the college, once it was established the college would benefit the entire United Nations system; it was only fair that the system as a whole should bear the cost of supporting it. On the other hand, since the college would be of such value to the United Nations and the specialized agencies, it was very strange that no representative of the Secretariat or of the agencies had spoken in the current debate in support of the college. His delegation for one would greatly appreciate hearing the views of the Secretariat and the specialized agencies on the subject.

15. Some delegations had taken the position that the Advisory Committee had not approved of the project, and that that was why it had decided not to recommend an appropriation for it in the 1972 budget. In his view, a careful reading of the Advisory Committee's report (A/8408/Add.21) did not support that interpretation; the Advisory Committee's belief that it would be premature for the General Assembly to pronounce itself on the project at the current stage was not equivalent to disapproval. Indeed, there was a genuine and considerable interest on the part of many delegations in the proposals put forward by UNITAR. The specialized agencies were also interested in the project but were perhaps not so completely committed to it as the Executive Director of UNITAR seemed to think. In that connexion, it was relevant to refer to

* Resumed from the 1482nd meeting.

paragraph 86 of the thirty-seventh report of ACC (E/5012 (part I))¹ which indicated that the agencies were interested in participating "on the understanding that the courses will meet their needs as to content, cost and quality". Needless to say, that was hardly an expression of unqualified support.

16. There were a number of questions which remained to be answered before his delegation could feel comfortable in supporting a decision to appropriate funds for the establishment of the college. For instance, it would be useful to have more specific information on the nature of the \$200,000 "contribution in kind" which the specialized agencies proposed to make towards the establishment of the college. If agency staff were to be seconded to the college, how many would be supplied by each agency and would they be in the Professional, the General Service or some other category? He had no desire to examine UNITAR's files on the subject, which he was sure the Executive Director would be willing to make available to any interested party; rather, he felt that information of that nature should be made generally available in a document which could be circulated to all delegations. Clarification would also be appreciated as to the intended scope of the initial phase, which, at least to his delegation, was not now clear. In addition, the Fifth Committee should have more information on the plans for the second phase; in particular, it would be interesting to know what level of expenditure was anticipated for the second and succeeding years of the project. Before taking any decision which, if the project failed, might result in a loss of millions of dollars, Member States should have considerably more information than had yet been provided.

17. While he whole-heartedly supported the idea of a staff college, further planning and detailed consideration of all aspects of the project were required. His delegation would support any proposal to approve in principle at the current session the establishment of a staff college and to request further detailed information concerning its structure, organization and method of financing. If the question of approving the proposed \$200,000 appropriation for the college came to a vote, his delegation would abstain but would not cast a negative vote, as it did not wish to give the impression that it was against the project.

18. Chief ADEBO (Executive Director, United Nations Institute for Training and Research), replying to the remarks made by the Tanzanian representative, said that, in advocating the establishment of a United Nations staff college, he had acted not from personal motives, but purely from a desire to assist the organizations of the United Nations system in his capacity as executive head of UNITAR. He had had some experience in co-ordination matters which made him a suitable person to co-ordinate the various aspects of that interagency project.

19. He failed to see how he could convince the Tanzanian representative if the latter would not accept his oral

assurances and at the same time did not wish to see his files on the subject. He would have no objection to the Committee's hearing the views of the representatives of the specialized agencies.

20. The ACC meeting to which the Tanzanian representative had referred had not been the last word on the matter. The meeting had merely provided guidelines and indicated conditions for the project which in his judgement had been fulfilled.

21. With regard to the financing arrangements for the proposed college, it was estimated that a total of \$400,000 would be needed to serve as a core budget, \$80,000 of which would be recoverable in fees. It was hoped that the United Nations and UNDP would each provide \$200,000. Because of their biennial budget systems, it had not been possible for the specialized agencies to give financial support to the college at the current stage.

22. He had not thought that the Committee would request such precise information concerning the staff and courses of the college. The staff would give instruction in the disciplines in which they were experienced.

23. Most of those who had read the study on the feasibility of a staff college had considered it to be of higher quality than had the Tanzanian representative. He had already explained why the project should be carried out in two stages; in view of its importance, it was essential not to be over-hasty in implementing it. It was far from unprecedented for a project to be carried out in two phases, especially in the case of an operation of such magnitude; it made good sense to begin on a tentative basis and later, in the light of the experience gained and the views of the various organizations and legislative bodies concerned, to decide whether or not to convert the project into a permanent arrangement. It was not possible for him to say what programmes would emerge at the end of the experimental period and he could not, therefore, gauge their financial cost.

24. The offer of the specialized agencies to release staff to work for the college was a not inconsiderable contribution; currently, permanent UNITAR staff represented only one quarter of the total staff engaged in the Institute's activities. He wished to reiterate that at a meeting with the executive heads of the four major specialized agencies, held at Geneva in July 1971, he had received personal assurances of the agencies' support for the project.

25. He had said that the experimental stage would last for two or three years and that if, in the light of experience, it was deemed inadvisable to pursue the project it would be discontinued. The money spent in the meantime would not have been wasted, since participants in the college's courses would have received the benefit of training. Experience suggested that it was not possible to state dogmatically what courses would be taught; in UNITAR's case, certain courses had been abandoned, others modified and new ones introduced. The Second Committee appeared satisfied with the quality of UNITAR's work. UNITAR's interest in the project under discussion arose simply from the fact that it had been requested to help the United Nations system to consider its training arrangements.

¹ Document pertaining to item 5 of the agenda of the resumed fifty-first session of the Economic and Social Council, issued separately (offset).

26. He had not said that to postpone the project would be tantamount to eliminating it but, rather, that postponement would make it more difficult to organize training in the United Nations system on a rational basis. Training would continue to be carried out along *ad hoc* lines and to be conducted by the various organizations of the United Nations system in their separate ways.

27. He had taken the leading role in explaining the project to the Committee because he was, perhaps, the person with the most knowledge about it and had been responsible for guiding it through ACC. If the Committee wished to hear the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs, he was sure that the latter would be prepared to make a statement.

28. Mr. VAN DER GOOT (Netherlands) said that his delegation's position concerning the proposal to establish a staff college was much the same as that of the Tanzanian delegation. It was necessary for the Committee, as a responsible organ charged with overseeing administrative and budgetary questions, to conduct its work on the basis of an orderly procedure. In fact, as the Tanzanian representative had pointed out, information was lacking on a number of points which were crucial to the Committee's consideration of the question. When, for instance, a UNDP project was submitted to the Governing Council, full details were given. The Fifth Committee could not properly consider the financial implications of the proposal before it without equally full information. He would like the Chairman of the Advisory Committee to clarify the financial implications of the proposal. In the circumstances, it was difficult to take a decision at the current stage, and although his delegation saw considerable merit in the establishment of a staff college it would support the Advisory Committee's recommendation that consideration of the matter should be deferred until the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

29. Mr. STEENBERGER (Denmark) said that his delegation found the arguments in support of a staff college adduced by the Secretary-General in his report (A/C.5/1404) and by the Executive Director of UNITAR convincing. Furthermore, Denmark's experience had demonstrated the usefulness of such a college. For those reasons, his delegation firmly believed that a staff college, to be financed out of the regular United Nations budget, should be established as soon as possible.

30. However, the Committee was being called upon to take a decision on the basis of information somewhat inferior to that normally provided. No breakdown of the \$200,000 requested for the first year in the initial stage of the college's operation had been given; nor had the Committee been provided with estimates of financial implications, even for later years in that initial stage. While the Executive Director of UNITAR had clarified the position to some extent, his delegation nevertheless felt that the Committee had not been given sufficient information to enable it to take a decision which, despite the supposedly experimental basis on which the project would be initiated, had far-reaching consequences. While it was possible that failure to act would be damaging, his delegation had regretfully reached the same conclusion as the Advisory Committee, namely, that further budgetary

information was required before the Fifth Committee could take a balanced decision.

31. Mr. GONTHA (Indonesia), referring to the Secretary-General's report on staff training, said that his delegation was quite satisfied with the way in which language training, career development training and other training programmes were being carried out.

32. With regard to the proposal to establish a United Nations staff college, he said that, since the college was designed to be a permanent, or in any event a long-term undertaking, and since those who took part in the college's courses would have to be fitted into the over-all personnel programme of the United Nations, the scheme should be considered in close conjunction with the findings of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on personnel problems in the United Nations (see A/8454), which had not yet been fully studied by either the Secretary-General or the General Assembly. The conflicting views which had emerged during the Committee's discussion of the matter also indicated the need to avoid taking a hasty decision on the proposal at the current stage. On the other hand, experience had shown that there was a tendency for problems which were deferred to a later session of the General Assembly to be postponed once again.

33. It would be more encouraging if the words "consideration of" in the first sentence of paragraph 19 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/8408/Add.21) were replaced by the words "a decision on". Time should be allowed for UNITAR to prepare more detailed information on the project and for members of the Fifth Committee to study its implications. He supported the Tanzanian representative's view that the Committee might approve in principle the idea of establishing a staff college and commit itself to taking a decision when it was in possession of all the relevant information, including details on the project's financial implications. On the latter point, it was imperative that the Committee should act in accordance with the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

34. There was much merit in the idea of establishing a staff college. For the reasons which he had explained, however, his delegation would regretfully abstain if the proposal to establish a staff college was put to the vote.

35. Mr. NAITO (Japan) said that his delegation, while not in principle opposed to the establishment of a staff college, was not convinced of the wisdom of taking a decision at the current stage. It fully endorsed the statement, in paragraph 18 of the Advisory Committee's report, that a postponement until the twenty-seventh session would provide time for UNITAR in co-operation with ACC to refine and present the proposal in a more comprehensive way and to consider in more detail several financial and administrative questions which were currently unresolved. His delegation therefore supported the Advisory Committee's recommendation that the General Assembly should defer consideration of the proposal until its twenty-seventh session.

36. Mr. BENDJENNA (Algeria) said that his delegation fully supported the Executive Director's appeal that the question of establishing a staff college should not be postponed until the twenty-seventh session of the General

Assembly. It also supported the proposal that the United Nations should contribute \$200,000 to the staff college for the first year of its operations.

37. Mr. MORRIS (Liberia) disagreed with the Tanzanian representative's comments concerning the proposed staff college, which had been a classic exercise in negative thinking.

38. Mr. ABRASZEWSKI (Poland) endorsed the recommendation contained in paragraph 19 of the Advisory Committee's report.

39. Mr. TARASOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Fifth Committee, in addition to its budgetary functions, was also responsible for dealing with administrative matters. In the Soviet Union, it was customary for an organ contemplating the establishment of a staff training centre to prepare a statute for the proposed institution, setting out clearly its purposes, its structure and its functions. Such a procedure should have been followed in the case of the proposed United Nations staff college. Furthermore, the documentation submitted to the Committee indicated that provision had been made for extending the college's facilities to representatives of non-governmental organizations. Since it was not only United Nations staff members who were to benefit from the college, it should be clearly stated who was to be trained and for what purpose the college was to be established.

40. Paragraph 15 of the Secretary-General's report indicated that the staff college should be regarded as a UNITAR project, rather than one emanating from some other organ. Moreover, as the Tanzanian representative had observed, the report of the ACC meeting at which the matter had been discussed indicated that the participants had merely shown interest in co-operating with UNITAR; that did not amount to definite approval of the project.

41. The Secretary-General's report did not relate merely to the proposed staff college but also dealt with language training, career development training and other training programmes. His delegation wished to know what would be the relationship between those forms of training and the training to be provided at the proposed college. A link was required between the various United Nations training operations in order to ensure that duplication and overlapping were eliminated. His delegation was not satisfied that that aspect of the matter had yet received sufficient attention.

42. For those reasons, his delegation would support the Advisory Committee's recommendation that the General Assembly should defer consideration of the proposal to establish a staff college until its twenty-seventh session.

43. Mr. OSMAN (Egypt) said that the assurances given by the Executive Director of UNITAR should have gone a long way towards dispelling certain delegations' misgivings concerning the proposal. There were undoubtedly merits in the project. The Tanzanian representative's comments on the reports of the Advisory Committee and ACC were pertinent. His delegation attached importance to the question of staff training and hence to the proposal to establish a staff college. In the circumstances, however, the approach

recommended by the Advisory Committee seemed to be sound and might be the best way to deal with the question.

44. Mr. REFSHAL (Norway) said that the Committee had been informed that a number of executive heads of specialized agencies were very enthusiastic about, and fully supported, the plan to establish a staff college; however, none of the agencies had supplied evidence to support that statement, either in writing or orally. There were two factors to be taken into consideration in dealing with the project, namely, whether it should be embarked upon and, if so, what its financial implications would be. Decisions relating to those factors could only be taken by the Fifth Committee, which was both a budgetary and an administrative organ; currently, however, the Committee did not possess sufficient data on which to base any decisions. The Advisory Committee had been informed that the first stage of the project would be considered experimental. He predicted, however, that once the project was started, even if only on an experimental basis, it would be there to stay. That opinion was borne out by the Secretary-General's statement, in paragraph 18 of his report, that he was proposing that the United Nations should contribute \$200,000 to signal the Organization's endorsement of the project. His delegation was not prepared to signal such an endorsement on the basis of the material available to the Committee. The project seemed to be one that was suitable for consideration under a programme budget system, because it would have long-term and major financial implications. In the prevailing situation and with the existing ratio between fixed-term and permanent appointments, it did not seem practical to provide costly training to persons who would remain with the Organization only for a very short time; it would be cheaper to train such persons by means of in-service courses. In the circumstances, it would seem that there was much to be gained by adopting the Advisory Committee's recommendation.

45. Miss WHALLEY (United Kingdom) said that her delegation was convinced that staff training was an essential element of effective personnel policy and agreed with those delegations which had said that staff training would contribute to the higher productivity on which all members of the Committee had placed such emphasis. In the Second Committee, her delegation had welcomed the proposal to establish a staff college and had made it clear that the United Kingdom Government sympathized with the aims of the college. It had also asked for information concerning the impact the establishment of the college would have on the United Nations training programme generally. That information had not been received. Her delegation recognized that the Secretariat might have been reluctant to embark on a radical reappraisal of its training operations, since the question must now be examined in the light of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on personnel questions. The Fifth Committee had decided to defer consideration of the Bertrand report (see A/8454) until the twenty-seventh session. That was one of the factors which had led the Advisory Committee to suggest a cautious approach and deferment of a decision on the establishment of the staff college until the college's place in the whole picture of staff training was clear.

46. All delegations were in favour of training, and no one was opposed to the college. Clearly, however, there was a

divergence of views as to whether the Committee was sufficiently informed about the full implications of the establishment of such a college to justify a decision to proceed immediately. In the circumstances, and bearing in mind that her delegation had indicated its support in principle for programme budgeting, it would seem inconsistent to proceed, on the basis of available information, to endorse the immediate establishment of a college without any knowledge of its impact on other aspects of staff training. Adoption of the Advisory Committee's recommendation would allow Member States to take an informed and over-all view of United Nations training requirements in relation to personnel policy. For those reasons, her delegation would support the Advisory Committee's recommendations.

47. Mr. DE FACQ (Belgium) said that, although his delegation considered that the drafting of paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Secretary-General's report could be improved, it agreed in principle that a United Nations staff college should be established; together with a better management system, such a college might succeed in improving staff efficiency and productivity. However, his delegation would welcome more detailed information on the project, including the financial implications of the experimental phase. Because of the lack of information on the experimental phase, his delegation would be obliged to abstain from voting on the proposal.

48. Mr. DA SILVA (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), referring to the questions put by the Tanzanian representative, said that the Director-General of UNESCO had participated in the consultations that had taken place on the project between the Executive Director of UNITAR and the executive heads of the specialized agencies. The Director-General recognized the need for an interagency scheme for the training of staff, particularly senior staff. The demands of the country programming approach adopted by UNDP and the General Assembly would increase the need for training. Currently, UNESCO was prepared to pay appropriate tuition fees for those of its staff members who attended courses at the college, to house courses falling within its competence and to provide staff members as lecturers for such courses. The Director-General was also prepared, if the project was approved by the General Assembly, to ask the Executive Board to authorize some transfers within the budget during the current biennium, but the existing budgetary situation made such an authorization very unlikely. The possibility of providing some financial assistance during the next biennium would, however, be studied within the framework of the proposals submitted to the General Conference.

49. Mr. RHODES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that it was not because of the shortage of funds that the Advisory Committee had recommended that consideration of the project should be deferred. In its report, the Committee recognized the importance of training and did not raise any objection in principle to the concept of a staff college. He wished to assure the Executive Director of UNITAR that the Advisory Committee in no way minimized the very real efforts he had made in connexion with the project. The Tanzanian representative had alluded to some of the matters which had made it difficult for the Advisory

Committee to reach any conclusion other than that currently before the Committee. The Executive Director of UNITAR had made it quite clear that the project was not a UNITAR project; that was a point on which the Secretary-General's report was misleading.

50. With regard to the questions put by the representative of the Netherlands, it was not easy to say what the financial implications would be. It did not seem possible to state that they would be \$200,000 for 1971 and 1972 because, if the project was not a UNITAR project, he was not sure what kind of financial and administrative entity the college would be. If the Organization's contribution was to be a grant-in-aid for which the college would not be accountable to the United Nations, the financial implications would be \$200,000. On the other hand, it appeared that the United Nations would have to pay fees for those of its staff members who attended courses at the college. It seemed rather curious that an organization which was making a financial contribution to the college should also have to pay fees. That was another of the doubts which made it difficult to answer the Netherlands representative's questions with any precision.

51. In conclusion, he said that the Advisory Committee had experienced difficulty with the ACC report (E/5012 (part I)), which did not seem to give very specific approval for the proposal. The representative of UNESCO had said that his agency could provide assistance in kind. It should be noted, however, that the governing bodies of most of the specialized agencies had met since April, when the proposal had been submitted to ACC, but so far as he was aware none of them had considered the proposal; they certainly had not approved any cash contributions to the project.

52. Mr. SILVEIRA DA MOTA (Brazil) said that the position of his delegation was similar to that of the Tanzanian and Indonesian delegations. Because it considered that the plans for the college should be refined and presented in a more comprehensive way, his delegation would have to abstain in any vote on the Secretary-General's proposal. On the other hand, it could not accept the Advisory Committee's recommendation because it was fearful of the adverse effects it might have on the future of the project. It would have to abstain from voting on that recommendation also. He therefore proposed that the Fifth Committee should approve in principle the idea of establishing a staff college and decide to defer consideration of the question until the twenty-seventh session, when it would study, in particular, the points raised by the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 18 and 19 of its report (A/8408/Add.21).

53. Mr. MERIGO AZA (Mexico), Mr. ESFANDIARY (Iran), Mr. WOSCHNAGG (Austria) and Mr. STOTTLEMYER (United States of America) endorsed that proposal.

54. Mr. TARASOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that it would be very difficult for his delegation to endorse the Brazilian proposal because it had no idea what the purposes of the staff college would be or how it would operate.

55. Mr. REFSHAL (Norway) said that, because it wished to reserve its position until such time as the question came

before the Committee again, his delegation would be unable to support the Brazilian proposal.

56. Mr. HOLLIST (Nigeria), supported by Mr. NAUDY (France) and Mr. MOLTOTAL (Ethiopia), proposed that the Fifth Committee should adopt the proposal made by the Secretary-General in paragraph 18 of his report (A/C.5/1404).

57. Mr. ESFANDIARY (Iran) reminded members that the representative of Indonesia had proposed an amendment to paragraph 19 of the Advisory Committee's report. It would seem that that amendment had now been formalized by the representative of Brazil. He suggested that the Committee should vote first on the Indonesian and Brazilian proposals and then on the recommendations in the Advisory Committee's report.

58. Mr. GONTHA (Indonesia) said that, in view of the Brazilian proposal, he withdrew his amendment to paragraph 19 of the Advisory Committee's report.

59. Mr. MARRON (Spain) asked whether the Committee should not receive a report on the financial implications of the Brazilian proposal.

60. By speaking in favour of staff training, his delegation had not wished to imply that the Secretariat should cease recruiting as efficient staff members as possible. The purpose of training should be to enable staff members to retain and even enhance their skills. It would seem that the question should be studied in greater detail, and his delegation therefore endorsed the Advisory Committee's recommendation.

61. The CHAIRMAN explained that no financial implications were involved in the Brazilian proposal, because the Advisory Committee would not supply the further details required until the twenty-seventh session.

62. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines), supported by Mr. MOLTOTAL (Ethiopia), suggested that the Committee should vote first on the proposal in paragraph 18 of the Secretary-General's report.

63. Mr. SILVEIRA DA MOTA (Brazil) said that, according to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly,

amendments should be voted on first. His proposal was an amendment to the Advisory Committee's recommendation. The Committee should therefore vote first on that proposal, then on the Advisory Committee's recommendations and finally on the Secretary-General's proposal.

64. Following a procedural discussion in which Mr. TARDOS (Hungary), Mr. DE FACQ (Belgium), Mr. SILVEIRA DA MOTA (Brazil), Mr. IZURIETA (Ecuador), Mr. NAUDY (France), Mr. HOLLIST (Nigeria) and Mr. TARASOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) took part, the CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should vote first on the proposal put forward by the delegations of Nigeria, France and Ethiopia to restore the amount of \$200,000 to the appropriation for staff training, in respect of the requirements of the proposed United Nations staff college.

It was so decided.

The proposal was rejected by 33 votes to 31, with 11 abstentions.

65. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote on the Brazilian representative's proposal.

The proposal was adopted by 52 votes to 2, with 20 abstentions.

66. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote on an additional appropriation of \$88,350 for 1972 consisting of \$70,350 under section 4, chapter VI, \$8,000 under section 7 and \$10,000 under section 16.

The recommendation of the Advisory Committee (A/8408/Add.21, para. 20) for the additional appropriation was approved by 74 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

67. Mr. TARASOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to the question of study leave mentioned in paragraph 8 of the Advisory Committee's report, said that in the opinion of his delegation such leave should coincide with annual leave.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.