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Agenda items 100 and 19

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE  
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA

Administrative and financial implications of the draft  
resolution contained in document A/C.4/36/L.3/Rev.1 and  
the draft decision contained in document A/C.4/36/L.19

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with  
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. The Fourth Committee, at its twenty-first meeting held on 9 November 1981, adopted a draft resolution and a draft decision contained in documents A/C.4/36/L.3/Rev.1 and A/C.4/36/L.19 respectively.
2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 8 and 9 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.4/36/L.3/Rev.1 concerning the question of Western Sahara, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General "to take the necessary steps to ensure that the United Nations participates in the organization and conduct of the referendum, and to report on this subject, and on the measures requiring a decision by the Security Council, to the General Assembly and the Security Council", and "to co-operate closely with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity with a view to the implementation of the decisions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and of the Implementation Committee, and of this resolution".
3. Under the terms of the draft decision contained in document A/C.4/36/L.19 concerning the same question, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General "to give assistance, in consultation and co-operation with the Organization of African Unity, to the Implementation Committee in the discharge of its mandate regarding the question of Western Sahara arising from the above resolution and decision, and report thereon to the General Assembly and the Security Council, as appropriate".

4. In operative paragraph 6 of its decision AHG/Res.103 (XVIII), adopted at its eighteenth ordinary session held at Nairobi from 24 to 27 June 1981 (see A/36/534, annex II), the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU requested "the United Nations, in conjunction with OAU, to provide a peace-keeping force to be stationed in Western Sahara to ensure peace and security during the organization and conduct of the referendum and subsequent elections".

5. The decision adopted by the Implementation Committee at its first session, held at Nairobi from 24 to 26 August 1981, (see A/36/602, annex I), pursuant to resolution AHG/Res.103 (XVIII), contains, inter alia, the following provisions:

"(d) Financing of the implementation of the decision

"The current OAU Chairman shall consult the United Nations in order to determine the United Nations involvement in the implementation of this decision, including its financing."

6. Pending the completion of the consultations envisaged in the decision of the Implementation Committee, the Secretary-General is not in a position to make accurate estimates of the expenditures arising from the recommendations contained in the draft proposals under reference. Accordingly, the Secretary-General intends, subject to the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to incur such expenditures as may be necessary and appropriate under the provision of the resolution to be adopted at the current session of the General Assembly on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1982-1983.

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