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BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1957

Estimates for Section 24 (Contractual Printing)

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its second report to the eleventh session of the General Assembly, document A/3160, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended approval of the Secretary-General's estimates for 1957 under section 25 (Contractual printing) in the amount of \$1,373,900.
2. Subsequently, the Secretary-General has submitted further reports involving expenditures under section 25 which were not contemplated at the time the original estimates were prepared:
  - (a) In his report (A/3207) on the supplementary estimates for 1956, the Secretary-General drew attention to the fact that the extension of the eleventh session of the General Assembly into 1957 will result in the transfer to 1957 of the production of certain meetings records of the eleventh session for which provision had been made in the 1956 budget. The carryover expense was estimated at \$70,000, and after providing for other adjustments in the 1956 printing programmes, \$60,000 was surrendered under section 25 for 1956;
  - (b) In his report (A/C.5/663) on the financial implications of decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council at its twenty-first and twenty-second sessions, the Secretary-General indicated that requirements for contractual printing expenses in the amount of \$20,000 not provided for in the 1957 estimates, were involved in those decisions. Pending an over-all review of the 1957 printing requirements, the Secretary-General did not, in that report, submit revised estimates for section 25 for 1957 to cover those additional requirements.

(c) In his report (A/C.5/679) on the additional expenses involved in certain decisions of the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, the Secretary-General drew attention to the fact that printing costs in the estimated amount of \$9,500 would be required for which no provision had been included in the 1957 estimates.

3. Accordingly there are printing requirements for 1957 estimated at slightly less than \$100,000 for which no provision is included in the appropriation recommended for section 25. It is difficult, however, to gauge with precision the actual amount of printing that can be processed in 1957. The Secretary-General intends to adhere as closely as possible to the 1957 printing programme as set out in the original budget estimates, which is closely integrated with the work programme for that year. It is also planned to provide for the printing of the additional records of the eleventh session of the General Assembly as well as such of the additional studies and reports as are forthcoming. On the other hand, the experience of the sixth session of the General Assembly, which extended over two financial years, while not entirely analogous to the present situation since it was not held at Headquarters, was such as to indicate that the disruption of the normal routine of the Secretariat, in both substantive and servicing departments, has some effect on the printing programme. This is true not only in an effect on the production of publications and official records for printing, but also in the ability to arrange printing in lower-cost areas away from Headquarters and Geneva with the delays inherent in such arrangements.

4. Under these circumstances, the Secretary-General considers the following arrangements as the most appropriate:

(a) that no additional provision be made at the present time under section 25 in respect of the estimated \$70,000 involved in the carryover of the meetings records. The production of these records is in any case regulated by the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. To the extent that additional funds are required in 1957, to cover this unforeseen requirement, supplementary estimates will be submitted to the twelfth session of the General Assembly;

(b) that additional provision be made for printing costs involved in the relevant projects arising from decisions of the Economic and Social Council (A/C.5/663) and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities (A/C.5/679). These are specific titles not covered by the present estimates, and in light of the total requirements indicated and the arrangement suggested for meeting the increased official records expenses, the Secretary-General believes the additional provision should be made.

5. Accordingly, the Secretary-General requests, in respect of the printing costs indicated in documents A/C.5/663 and A/C.5/679, that an additional provision be made for 1957 under section 25 in the amount of \$29,500.

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