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UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
AND DELEGATION OFFICE FACILITIES

Draft report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Raul QUIJANO (Argentina)

United Nations International School

1. At its 694th meeting, the Fifth Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/3911) on the International School. The Committee also had before it a report of the Board of Trustees of the School (A/C.5/754) and a draft resolution (A/C.5/L.535) submitted by France, Ghana, India and Poland. Peru subsequently joined in sponsorship of the draft resolution.
2. In the discussion in the Fifth Committee, members indicated the importance they attached to the School and the facility offered by it to the members of the staff of the United Nations and other international organizations and to the staff of permanent delegations at New York. Particular emphasis was also placed on the role of the School in connexion with maintaining the international character of the Secretariat. The problem of finding permanent accommodation for the School in Manhattan still existed and the Committee noted that, after further study of the suggestion made at the twelfth session, the Secretary-General had concluded that it was neither feasible nor advisable to construct permanent premises on the Headquarters site. For the next three years satisfactory arrangements have been concluded. The Committee expressed its warm appreciation of the interest and practical support which had been given by the Mayor and other authorities of the City of New York to make this possible.

3. The sponsors of the draft resolution drew attention to the financial deficit faced by the School of some \$54,000, towards which they proposed, as a special measure, that the United Nations should make a grant of \$32,700 to the School. While recognizing that the amount proposed was larger than grants which the organization had made in the past, they, and a number of other delegations which supported the proposal, pointed out that the deficit of the School was due in the main to special circumstances which the Board of Trustees of the School had encountered in furthering the desired development of the School in Manhattan. The School was a growing institution and there was every reason to hope that its financial situation would be better in the future.

4. The representative of the United Kingdom requested that a separate vote be taken on the fifth preambular and fourth operative paragraphs of the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.535) so that members could record their views separately on its financial aspects. The fifth preambular paragraph was approved by 45 votes to 6 with 8 abstentions; and operative paragraph 4 was approved by 41 votes to 7 with 9 abstentions. The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 49 votes to 1 with 7 abstentions.

5. Accordingly, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution set out as annex A to the present report.

Delegation office facilities

6. In considering the report of the Secretary-General on delegation office facilities (A/3912), members expressed their appreciation of the efforts that the Secretary-General had made, pursuant to the request of the General Assembly at its twelfth session, to assist delegations in finding suitable facilities in the Headquarters vicinity. Some concern was expressed on the bearing which the proposed arrangements might have in relation to the Headquarters area; the representative of the Secretary-General gave assurance that this problem had been borne in mind, and that the specific plans had been developed in such a way as to avoid difficulties. He also stated that, having in mind the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement, appropriate consultations with the Government of the United States would be undertaken.

7. The Fifth Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General.

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ANNEX A

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations International School (A/3911) as well as the report by the Board of Trustees (A/C.5/754);

Recalling its earlier resolutions on this subject (1102 (XI) and 1228 (XII));

Noting with satisfaction that steps taken by the Secretary-General have resulted in the acquisition, for a period of up to three years, of premises for the School in Manhattan, and that the School has been in operation at these premises since the beginning of the present academic year;

Noting further the continued need of the School for suitable permanent premises as near as practicable to the United Nations Headquarters building;

Noting also that the Board of Trustees, in furthering the desired development of the School in Manhattan, are faced with a consequential deficit of up to \$54,000 in regard to the current academic year;

1. Reaffirms the belief that the provision of adequate accommodation for the School is in the best interest of the Organization;
2. Hopes that steps will be taken to make the School available to the children of the greatest possible number of staff members of delegations, the United Nations Secretariat and others associated with the United Nations;
3. Expresses appreciation to the Secretary-General, and to the authorities of New York City for their efforts in finding temporary accommodations for the School;
4. Decides, as a special measure, to make a grant of \$32,700 to the School towards meeting the expected deficit in respect of the academic year 1958/9;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to use his good offices to assist the Board of Trustees of the School in finding suitable permanent accommodation for the School in the immediate vicinity of the United Nations Headquarters building, in developing plans for a building, and in pursuing their

efforts to raise funds from private sources for the construction of the building, and, if necessary, for the acquisition of a site therefor;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to present a further progress report on this question to the fourteenth session of the General Assembly.
