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FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 76

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1972

REVIEW AND REAPPRAISAL OF UNITED NATIONS
INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.5/L.1068

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 154
of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.5/L.1068 the General Assembly would approve the five-year programme of acquisition and replacement of equipment as contained in annex I of A/C.5/1320/Rev.1/Add.1. This would entail an additional appropriation of \$307,500 in 1972 (\$15,000 under section 7 and \$292,500 under section 8), and an expenditure of \$1,290,000 (expressed in US dollars of 1971 value) in the years 1973 through 1976.
2. Under operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would endorse the proposals contained in subparagraphs 261 (iii), (iv), (viii), (x), (xii), (xiii), and (xiv) of document A/C.5/1320/Rev.1. Those subparagraphs and their financial implications are as follows:
 - (iii) "The present output in the field of publications - weekly news summary, UN Monthly Chronicle, Yearbook of the United Nations, leaflets, pamphlets, booklets, etc. - can be maintained at their present level. An additional annual allocation may be required to offset increased operating costs and to permit an increased output of information during the Disarmament and Development Decades."

In 1972 an additional appropriation of \$15,000 would be required under section 10 to increase output during the Disarmament and Development Decade. In 1973, and thereafter, approximately \$13,000 more (at 1971 prices) would be needed to maintain the existing publications programme at its present level.

- (iv) "The translation and printing, in 5,000 copies, of four issues of the French edition of Objective: Justice would require additional funds."

An additional appropriation of \$24,000 would be required under section 10 of the budget for 1972.

- (viii) "Until it becomes possible to meet the world-wide demand for United Nations Television services on the basis of regular provisions, it is intended to resort, in so far as possible, to seeking payment from users, always bearing in mind the special difficulties of the developing countries, and to encourage co-production and cost-sharing with national television organizations."

If it is the intention of the General Assembly to endorse the principle that, to the extent feasible, free distribution of films to users in developing countries would be subsidized from revenue earned in developed countries, there would be no financial implications. However, if it is the desire of the General Assembly that the Organization undertake the production and free distribution of films described in paras. 157-160 of A/C.5/1320/Rev.1, an additional appropriation of \$222,400 would be required in 1972. In subsequent years, an additional \$220,000 (at 1972 prices) would be required to continue the programme.

- (x) "The increasing demand for United Nations photographs in colour requires an improvement of the present colour photo processing equipment. The preparation of selected photographic enlargement for small exhibits at appropriate international exhibitions would require additional funds. The visual aides, at present produced in black and white, would be much more effective if produced in colour, for which additional funds would be required."

As indicated in document A/C.5/1320/Rev.1/Add.1 the Secretary-General would propose to begin implementation of this recommendation in 1973, when an additional appropriation of \$20,000 would be required. There are, therefore, no implications for the budget for 1972.

- (xii) "To enable the Educational Liaison Section and the Non-Governmental Organizations Section to carry out their responsibilities more effectively,

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additional travel funds for seminars and conferences would be required. Furthermore, an expansion of the current fellowship and seminar programmes would require additional funds."

It is estimated that the additional travel funds required would be of the order of \$2,000. The Secretary-General feels that this requirement can be met from within existing resources. The initial expansion of the Triangular Fellowship Programme would take place in 1973, at an additional cost of \$10,000, increasing the current appropriation under section 12 to \$30,000. There are no implications for the 1972 budget.

(xiii) "To set up the proposed Regional Production Bureau in the field, four new Professional posts would be required in addition to two locally recruited information assistants and five secretary/clerical posts."

As indicated in A/C.5/1320/Rev.1 and A/C.5/1320/Rev.1/Add.1, the additional appropriation required would be \$123,000 in 1972 and \$198,000 in 1973 and subsequent years.

	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>
Section 3	\$ 62,000	\$124,000
Section 4	16,000	31,000
Section 5	9,000	17,000
Section 8	23,000	-
Section 9	4,000	8,000
Section 10	9,000	18,000
	<u>\$123,000</u>	<u>\$198,000</u>

(xiv) "It is proposed to resume, beginning with the year 1973, the former practice of holding periodic meetings of information centre directors once every five years at Headquarters. A special provision of \$70,000 would therefore need to be made for this purpose in the 1973 budget. In between the five-yearly meetings at Headquarters, it is proposed that regional meetings of centre directors should take place on a rotating basis in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. The average annual cost of these regional meetings would be about \$15,000, beginning in 1974."

There are, thus, no implications for the budget for 1972.

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3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.5/L.1068, excluding any provision for production and free distribution of films, an additional appropriation of \$469,500 would be required in the budget for the financial year 1972, as follows:

	\$
Section 3	62,000
Section 4	16,000
Section 5	9,000
Section 7	15,000
Section 8	315,500
Section 9	4,000
Section 10	48,000
	<u>469,500</u>
	<u><u>469,500</u></u>
