



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/C.5/1629  
15 November 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth session  
FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 73 and 40

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI  
PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION  
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Administrative and financial implications of the draft  
resolution contained in document A/SPC/L.305

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

1. At its 932nd meeting, held on 12 November 1974, the Special Political Committee adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/L.305.
2. In operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly, having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (A/9817), would request the Special Committee, pending the early termination of Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross, in order to ensure the safeguarding of the welfare and human rights of the population of the occupied territories.
3. In operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General: (a) to render all necessary facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories with a view to investigating Israeli policies and practices referred to in the draft resolution; (b) to ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available through the Office of Public Information; and (c) to report to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session on the tasks entrusted to him.
4. For the purpose of arriving at an estimate of 1975 expenditures of the Special Committee, the following assumptions have been made on the basis of indications

given by the Special Committee that its activities in 1975 would continue to follow the pattern of the programme of work undertaken by the Committee since 1970:

(a) The Special Committee would meet at Geneva early in 1975, for a period of approximately 10 days (eight working days), to continue its study and analysis of the evidence and documentary and other material that it has received. At that meeting, the Special Committee would review developments in the occupied territories, receive further allegations and evidence of violations of human rights, if any, and initiate studies of relevant new developments;

(b) In summer 1975, the Special Committee would meet in Geneva for a period of approximately two weeks (10 working days) to continue its study and analysis of further evidence, receive additional allegations and evidence of violations of human rights, if any, and begin the preparation of its draft report;

(c) In the latter part of September 1975, the Special Committee would meet at Headquarters for a period of approximately eight days (six working days) in order to complete and adopt its report, which would run to approximately 100 pages in English. Should the Secretary-General issue the report as a document of the General Assembly, it would have to be translated, typed and reproduced in all the other official languages;

(d) Interpretation services would be required from and into English for the meetings held at Headquarters or in Geneva; documents prepared for the Special Committee's use will be drafted in English, and translation into French would be required;

(e) One member of the Special Committee would continue to be stationed in New York, one in Dakar, Senegal and one in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia;

(f) It may be anticipated that the Special Committee will require up-to-date information on current developments in the Middle East region and that, for this purpose, newspapers issued in the region will have to be reviewed on a day-to-day basis for information relevant to the work of the Special Committee; translation from Arabic and Hebrew into English of the appropriate articles appearing in Arabic and Hebrew publications would be required;

(g) Prior to proceeding on a field mission to Europe and the Middle East, it is anticipated that the Special Committee will review developments in the occupied territories and decide whether it considers such a mission necessary. If the Special Committee considers it necessary to undertake such a mission, it would probably proceed during the late spring or early summer 1975 for a period of not more than 21 days;

(h) During the field mission, the Special Committee would hear testimony and receive written statements from witnesses; it would be necessary for the Committee to insert paid notices in newspapers for the purpose of informing potential witnesses of its hearings; some witnesses may require financial assistance to make the journey to the place of meeting of the Committee in order to testify;

/...

(i) At the Special Committee's meetings on the mission, interpretation from and into English, French and Arabic would be required. No summary records would be prepared; the oral testimony of witnesses would be recorded on tape and, if and when capacity is available, would be transcribed in Geneva, 1/ and the written testimony would be translated into English and French from Arabic or Hebrew; the records of oral and written testimony of witnesses would run to approximately 2,000 pages in English and would be translated into French.

5. The request to the Secretary-General, in operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, to ensure the widest circulation of the report of the Special Committee by all means available through the Office of Public Information could be complied with without incurring additional expenses.

6. On the above assumptions, the related costs are estimated as follows:

1975  
\$US

I. Three separate series of meetings

- (1) At Geneva for approximately eight working days early in 1975
- (2) At Geneva for approximately 10 working days in summer 1975
- (3) At Headquarters for approximately six working days in September 1975

(a) Travel and subsistence of members (first class)

- (i) Two members for one Headquarters meeting 4,000
- (ii) Three members for two Geneva meetings 9,000

(b) Travel and subsistence of one staff member of the Division of Human Rights from Geneva for Headquarters meeting in September 1975 1,300

(c) General expenses (air freight, travel of witnesses, communications, airmail subscriptions to and advertisements in newspapers and other publications etc.) 1,000

---

1/ If the mission is undertaken before May 1975, the transcription would be made at the estimated cost of \$4,000 for approximately 2,000 pages in English.

1975  
\$US

- (d) Translations (translation and typing, into English and French, newspaper articles and/or written testimony from Arabic and Hebrew (approximately 300 pages - limited reproduction and distribution) 5,000

- (e) Conference servicing costs:

Translation, typing and reproduction of the Special Committee's report as a General Assembly document (approximately 100 pages) in five official languages 7,500

Total I 27,800

In addition, should it not prove possible to provide the necessary interpretation facilities for the Committee's meetings at New York and Geneva from within existing resources, an amount of approximately \$13,000 would be required.

II. Field mission to Europe and the Middle East in late spring or early summer 1975 (approximately 21 days) - London/Geneva/Middle East region/Geneva

- (a) Travel and subsistence of three members (first class) 7,500
- (b) Travel and subsistence of staff (economy class) (composition of staff is listed below) 20,000

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Principal secretary  | 1               |
| Assistant secretary  | 1               |
| Administrative and finance officer                                     | 1               |
| Information officer  | 1               |
| Verbatim reporter <u>2/</u>  | 2               |
| or précis-writer   | or 4            |
| Sound engineer   | 1               |
| Interpreter (Arabic/English/<br>French - to be recruited in<br>Beirut) | 4               |
| Secretarial staff <u>2/</u>  | <u>2 or 4</u>   |
|  | <u>13 or 17</u> |

2/ If the Committee finds it necessary to undertake its mission later than May 1975, brief minutes would also be prepared of the testimony of witnesses, as the time for transcription of testimony would be reduced; consequently, it would be necessary to base the preparation of the draft report on minutes taken in the field, in addition to the tape recordings. In that case, the composition of staff would include four précis-writers and two secretarial staff instead of the two verbatim reporters.

/...

|     |   |                     |
|-----|---|---------------------|
|     |   | <u>1975</u><br>\$US |
| (c) | Wages to freelance personnel to be recruited in (b) above:  | 15,500              |
|     | (i) One sound engineer (travel from Geneva)   | 1,500               |
|     | (ii) Four Arabic/French/English interpreters  | 8,500               |
|     | (iii) Four précis-writers   | 4,000               |
|     | (iv) Two secretarial staff for précis-writers   | 1,500               |
| (d) | General expenses:   | 6,000               |
|     | (i) Rental of conference rooms and office space   | 1,000               |
|     | (ii) Local transportation   | 500                 |
|     | (iii) Communications:   |                     |
|     | Administrative cables, telephone etc.   | 500                 |
|     | Press cables  | 500                 |
|     | (iv) Air freight (sound equipment, tapes etc.)  | 500                 |
|     | (v) Miscellaneous and unforeseen expenses (travel and subsistence of witnesses, costs for notices in newspapers etc.) | 3,000               |
|     | Total II  | <u>49,000</u>       |

#### Summary

|     |   |               |
|-----|---|---------------|
| I.  | Three separate meetings at Headquarters and in Geneva for the total duration of approximately 24 working days in 1975 | 27,800        |
| II. | Field mission to Europe and the Middle East region  | <u>49,000</u> |
|     | Total   | <u>76,800</u> |

7. Accordingly, should the General Assembly approve the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/L.305, and on the assumption that the Special Committee will implement in 1975 a programme of work similar to that carried out in 1974, including field missions, an additional appropriation of \$76,800 would be required under section 20 of the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975. Further, should it not prove possible to provide the necessary interpretation facilities for the Committee's meetings at New York and Geneva from within existing resources, an amount of approximately \$13,000 would be required.

-----