



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/1657
12 December 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda items 73 and 23

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975

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

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in documents A/L.754; A/C.4/L.1079; A/C.4/L.1080;
A/C.4/L.1084; A/C.4/L.1085; A/C.4/L.1086; A/C.4/L.1088/Rev.1;
A/C.4/L.1089 and A/C.4/L.1090

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

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution contained in document A/L.754, adopted by the Fourth Committee at its meeting on 12 December 1974, the General Assembly would approve the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/9623) covering its work during 1974 and its programme of work envisaged for 1975 (A/9623, part III, paras. 17-28). Under the terms of operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution the Special Committee would be requested to pay particular attention to the small territories, including the sending of visiting missions thereto as appropriate.

2. The various elements of the proposed 1975 work programme and their related costs, based on assumptions derived from the past activities of the Committee are described below:

(a) Sending visiting groups to Colonial Territories: \$154,000

In paragraph 23 of its report, the Special Committee states its intention to continue to seek the full co-operation of the administering Powers in order to enable it to obtain such information through the sending, as appropriate, of visiting groups to the Territories in the Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean areas and to the Territories in Africa. The estimate of \$154,000 provides for the related travel, subsistence and miscellaneous costs in respect of members of the Special Committee and the necessary supporting staff.

The General Assembly has before it several draft resolutions, or draft consensuses, listed in annex I, which request the Special Committee to dispatch United Nations visiting missions to Colonial Territories. In connexion with each of these resolutions, the Chairman of or Secretary to the Fourth Committee, in oral statements, informed the Fourth Committee when the draft resolutions were under consideration, that the expenditure which may be incurred in complying with the draft resolutions would be met from within the appropriation that may be made available for the over-all programme of work of the Special Committee in 1975. The amount of \$154,000 above would include the costs of the visiting missions referred to in the draft resolutions listed in annex I.

(b) Series of meetings away from Headquarters: \$205,000

In paragraph 26 of its report, the Special Committee recalled the provisions of paragraph 6 of resolution 1654 (XVI) and paragraph 3(9) of resolution 2621 (XXV), by which the Assembly authorized the Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. Although the General Assembly had made the necessary financial provision for the purpose, the Committee had not held meetings away from Headquarters during 1973 and 1974, but the Committee, bearing in mind the constructive results flowing from the holding of meetings away from Headquarters in previous years, decided to inform the General Assembly that it might consider holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters during 1975 and to recommend that, in making the necessary financial provisions to cover the activities of the Committee during that year, the General Assembly should take that possibility into account. Based on past experience, the cost of one such series of meetings away from Headquarters may be estimated at approximately \$205,000.

(c) Consultations with specialized agencies: \$6,800

In paragraph 22 of its report, the Special Committee notes its decision to maintain the working group established by it to facilitate its consideration of the question of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. The further consultations and contacts envisaged with the United Nations system of organizations would entail expenditures of \$6,800.

(d) Consultations by the Chairman of the Special Committee with the President of the Economic and Social Council: \$5,500

This estimate covers travel and subsistence costs in respect of visits to Geneva by the Chairman of the Special Committee, accompanied by the Committee Secretary, for the purpose of consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council envisaged in paragraph 22 of the Committee's report.

(e) Consultation with the Organization of African Unity: \$8,000

In paragraph 22 of the Committee's report, it is noted that, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of resolution 3118 (XXVIII), the Committee will maintain close contact on a regular basis with the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, as well as senior members of the organization, with a view to facilitating the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies by the specialized agencies and other organizations concerned. In this connexion, it is estimated that an amount of \$5,000 may be required to cover related travel and subsistence costs.

(f) Consultations with non-governmental organizations: \$14,500

Paragraph 25 of the Special Committee's report records the Committee's intention to seek close collaboration with non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization by dispatching in 1975 groups of its members to hold consultations with the organizations concerned at their respective headquarters and to participate in conferences, seminars and special meetings dealing with decolonization arranged by these organizations. An amount of \$14,500 has been estimated for such consultations in 1975.

(g) Participation of the representatives of the national liberation movements in the Committee's work: \$25,000

In paragraph 19 of its report, the Committee states that, in view of the importance which it attaches to maintaining close relations with the national liberation movements of Colonial Territories, and in conformity with the relevant decisions of the General Assembly, the Committee will once again invite the representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by the OAU to participate as observers in its proceedings relating to their respective countries.

The Committee recommends that the General Assembly should take this possibility into account in making the necessary financial provisions to cover the Committee's activities during 1975. The estimate of \$25,000 covers the anticipated costs of travel and subsistence, at Secretariat rates. As on previous occasions when similar expenditures by the United Nations were envisaged, the Secretary-General considers that specific authority by the General Assembly will be required to enable him to enter into commitments of this nature and would proceed on the assumption that adoption by the General Assembly of the draft resolution would constitute such authority.

(h) Invitations to individuals: \$12,700

In paragraph 19 of its report, the Special Committee states its intention to invite in consultation, as appropriate with OAU and the national liberation movements concerned, individuals who could furnish it with information on specific aspects of the situation obtaining in Colonial Territories, which it might not be able to secure otherwise. The arrangements anticipated would entail an expenditure

/...

of up to \$12,700, which would be subject to the reservations expressed by the Secretary-General in the last sentence of paragraph (g) above.

3. The programme of work for 1975 includes, in paragraph 24 of A/9623 (part III), activities in the field of publicity on decolonization. Inasmuch as this matter is the subject of a separate draft resolution (A/L.755), the related statement of financial implications is contained in a separate document (A/C.5/1658).

4. Under the terms of operative paragraph 17 of the draft resolution contained in document A/L.754, the Secretary-General would be requested, having regard to the increased level of activities of the Special Committee, to provide the Committee with the facilities and personnel necessary for the implementation of the resolution as well as the various resolutions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee. The Secretary-General wishes to advise the Assembly in this regard that every effort will be made to assist the Special Committee to carry out the programme envisaged in these resolutions without resource, in 1975, to a request for additional Secretariat staff. Much will depend upon the actual development of the programme of work, and in the light of those developments the Secretary-General may find it necessary to request additional resources for Secretariat services when presenting his proposed budget for the biennium 1976-1977 to the thirtieth session of the Assembly.

5. In summary, the programme of work of the Special Committee for 1975 will, it is estimated, require a total expenditure of \$431,500. Having regard to the total appropriation of \$330,000 made in the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, and a current estimate that the programme of work of the Special Committee for 1974 will result in an expenditure of approximately \$140,000 (leaving \$190,000 available for the 1975 programme of work), should the Assembly adopt the draft resolutions listed in paragraph 1 above and annex I, a further appropriation of \$241,500 will be required under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975.

ANNEX I

Draft resolutions relating to agenda item 23 which request
dispatch of visiting missions to Colonial Territories

<u>Document</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Adopted by the Fourth Committee</u>	
		<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>
A/C.4/L.1079	Question of the Seychelles	2128th	6 December 1974
A/C.4/L.1080	Question of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands	2128th	6 December 1974
A/C.4/L.1084	Question of Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands	2128th	6 December 1974
A/C.4/L.1085	Question of American Samoa, Guam, New Hebrides, Pitcairn, St. Helena and Solomon Islands	2129th	9 December 1974
A/C.4/L.1088/ Rev.1	Question of the Comoro Archipelago	2131st	11 December 1974
A/C.4/L.1089	Question of Territories under Portuguese Domination	2131st	11 December 1974
A/C.4/L.1090	Question of Spanish Sahara	2131st	11 December 1974

Draft consensuses relating to agenda item 23 which requests
dispatch of visiting missions to Colonial Territories

A/C.4/L.1086	Question of Tokelau Islands	2128th	6 December 1974
A/9623/Add.5 (Part II)	Question of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands	2128th	6 December 1974
