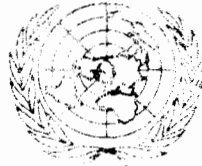




UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/C.5/34/16  
8 October 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fourth session  
FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 98

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Revised estimates under section 28L. Jointly financed  
administrative activities

Secretariat of the Consultative Committee on Administrative  
Questions - United Nations share

Report of the Secretary-General

1. Estimates for the United Nations share of the costs of the Secretariat of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ) were included in the 1980-1981 proposed programme budget (A/34/6, paras. 28L.37 through 28L.53) in the amount of \$297,900. This represents approximately 37 per cent of the total estimated budget of \$805,000, which had been prepared by the Secretariat of CCAQ. The estimate included, inter alia, provision for salaries and common staff costs for one D-2, two P-5 and three General Service staff (one Principal level and two other levels).

2. Subsequent to its submission to United Nations Headquarters, the CCAQ (Financial and Budgetary Questions), at its fiftieth session in March 1979, considered the 1980-1981 programme budget estimates which had been prepared by its Secretariat and which had provided for a negative programme growth of approximately 1 per cent.

3. In its review of the budget, the Committee considered that the proposals of its Secretariat made insufficient provision to meet the requirements of its work in the financial and budgetary area, which had now expanded to a considerable extent. This expansion was evident from the workload indicators given in the secretariat's proposals, which showed for example that the number of pages of working papers, reports and other documents which had been produced on financial and budgetary questions had increased from 358 in 1974 to 1,142 in 1978. Bearing in mind the increasing interest of central United Nations policy-making bodies and their subsidiary organs in policy co-ordination, the organizations' growing awareness of the need for common positions, the enhanced role of the consultative

committees in the new ACC machinery, and the assignment of two new subject areas to the financial and budgetary sector of CCAQ (i.e. the financial impact of decisions made by central intergovernmental bodies on organizations of the United Nations system and language arrangements, documentation and related matters), a higher level of activity had to be foreseen for the coming period. As a consequence of the restructuring arrangements the Committee would also be required to extend certain aspects of its work in the area of financial and administrative matters relating to programmes financed by voluntary contributions such as UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA and others.

4. The secretariat's workload was already greater than could be met at the required standard of quality by the one professional staff member available for work in the financial and budgetary area. Since no other professional staff in the secretariat was available to fill the gap, the Committee, giving full weight to the budgetary and financial difficulties facing the organizations, decided that provision should be made in the estimates for a new P-3 post for necessary work in the financial and budgetary area.

5. Based on that decision CCAQ approved 1980-1981 revised estimates for its Secretariat in the amount of \$859,000, 1/ representing an increase of \$54,000 for established posts (\$42,800) and common staff costs (\$11,200), as follows:

<u>Objects of expenditure</u>	<u>\$</u>
Established posts	593,000
Consultants	28,300
Common staff costs	155,200
Travel of staff	32,700
Contractual services	37,600
General operating expenses	12,200
	<hr/>
Total	859,000

6. Revised estimated requirements for the United Nations share (37 per cent) of the costs of the Secretariat of CCAQ would amount to \$317,800, thereby requiring an increase of \$19,900 in the estimates already included in section 28L of the proposed programme budget for 1980-1981.

---

1/ Equivalent to \$853,700 at revised 1979 rates.