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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mrs. Flor Acconciamezza de RODRIGUEZ (Venezuela)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1988, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-third session, and to allocate to the Fifth Committee, the item entitled:

"Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East:

"(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

"(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

2. The Fifth Committee considered sub-item (a) of agenda item 124 at its 44th and 45th meetings, on 9 and 12 December 1988. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (A/43/769) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/43/941).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/43/L.6

3. At the 44th meeting, on 9 December, the representative of Canada introduced a draft resolution (A/C.5/43/L.6), sponsored by Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Ireland, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway and Sweden.

4. At its 45th meeting, on 12 December, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 6).

5. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this sub-item are reflected in the relevant summary records (see A/C.5/43/SR.44 and 45).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, 1/ as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974, by which the Council established the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 624 (1988) of 30 November 1988,

Recalling its resolution 3211 B (XXIX) of 29 November 1974 on the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 42/70 A of 3 December 1987,

Reaffirming its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure is required from that applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peace-keeping operations involving heavy expenditures,

1/ A/43/769.

2/ A/43/941.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council in the financing of such operations, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Having regard to the financial position of the Special Account for the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, as set forth in the report of the Secretary-General, 1/ and referring to paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Recalling its resolution 33/13 E of 14 December 1978 and the subsequent resolutions in which it decided that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations should be suspended, the latest of which was resolution 42/70 B of 3 December 1987,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Forces on a current basis, particularly those due to the Governments of troop-contributing States,

Recognising that, in consequence of the withholding of contributions by certain Member States, the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force have, in effect, been drawn upon to the full extent to supplement the income received from contributions for meeting expenses of the Forces,

Concerned that the application of the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations would aggravate the already difficult financial situation of the Forces,

1. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account referred to in section II, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 3211 B (XXIX) the amount of \$17,664,000 gross (\$17,358,000 net) authorised and apportioned by section III of Assembly resolution 42/70 A for the operation of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1988, inclusive;

2. Decides also to appropriate to the Special Account an amount of \$18,114,000 for the operation of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 1 December 1988 to 31 May 1989, inclusive;

3. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, without prejudice to the positions of principle that may be taken by Member States in any consideration by the General Assembly of arrangements for the financing of peace-keeping

operations, to apportion the amount of \$18,114,000 among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in Assembly resolution 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and the provisions of section II, paragraph 2 (h) and (g), and section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 3374 C (XXX) of 2 December 1975, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 31/5 D of 22 December 1976, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 32/4 C of 2 December 1977, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 33/13 D of 8 December 1978, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 34/7 C of 3 December 1979, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 35/45 A of 1 December 1980, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 36/66 A of 30 November 1981, section V, paragraph 1, of resolution 37/38 A of 30 November 1982 and section V, paragraphs 1 and 2, of resolution 39/28 A of 30 November 1984; the scale of assessments for the year 1988 3/ shall be applied against a portion thereof, that is, \$3,019,000, being the amount pertaining on a pro rata basis to the period ending 31 December 1988, and the scale of assessments for the year 1989 4/ shall be applied against the balance, that is, \$15,095,000, for the period thereafter;

4. Decides that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the estimated income of \$6,000 other than staff assessment income approved for the period from 1 December 1988 to 31 May 1989, inclusive;

5. Decides that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalisation Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of \$330,000 approved for the period from 1 December 1988 to 31 May 1989, inclusive;

6. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force at a rate not to exceed \$3,019,000 gross (\$2,963,000 net) per month for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1989, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 624 (1988), the said amount to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

7. Decides that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (h), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations shall be suspended in respect of the amount of \$2,413,235, which otherwise would have to be surrendered pursuant to those provisions, this amount to be entered into the account referred to in the operative part of General Assembly resolution 33/13 E and held in suspense until a further decision is taken by the Assembly;

3/ See resolution 40/248.

4/ See resolution 43/***.

8. Stresses the need for voluntary contributions to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, both in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy.

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