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FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 116

FINANCIAL EMERGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman following
informal consultations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3049 A (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, 3538 (XXX) of 17 December 1975, 32/104 of 14 December 1977, 35/113 of 10 December 1980, 36/116 B of 10 December 1981, 37/13 of 16 November 1982, 38/228 B of 20 December 1983, 39/239 B of 18 December 1984, 40/241 A and B of 18 December 1985, 41/204 A of 11 December 1986 and 42/216 A of 21 December 1987,

Mindful of the report of the Negotiating Committee on the Financial Emergency of the United Nations 1/ and of the views expressed by Member States thereon in the Fifth Committee at the thirty-second session of the General Assembly, 2/

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the analysis of the financial situation of the United Nations, 3/ and the comments thereon made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in his introductory statement,

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 37 (A/31/37).

2/ Ibid., Thirty-second Session, Fifth Committee, 32nd, 33rd, 35th, 37th, 39th and 60th meetings; and ibid., Fifth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.

3/ A/C.5/43/29 and Corr.1.

Noting with concern that the short-term deficit of the Organization, though marginally reduced during the year, is expected to reach approximately \$320 million as at 31 December 1988,

Noting also with concern that delays in and partial payment of assessed contributions continue to create serious cash-flow problems for the Organization,

Concerned also at the increasingly precarious financial situation of peace-keeping operations, and noting that peace-keeping activities remain in operation to a large extent because the current and former troop-contributing Member States, particularly the developing-country troop contributors, continue to bear most of the burden of the deficit,

Reiterating earlier appeals to Member States, without prejudice to their position of principle, to make voluntary contributions to the Special Account referred to in annex VI to the report of the Secretary-General on the analysis of the financial situation of the United Nations, 3/

Noting recent developments concerning the financial situation of the Organization, in particular the progress being made towards liquidating the long-standing arrears in peace-keeping operations and the offers of voluntary contributions by some Member States in response to the Secretary-General's appeals,

Considering the possibility that for many Member States a calendar difference between the national fiscal year and that of the Organization may be among contributory factors in the delay in the payment of assessed contributions,

Taking into account the views expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee during the forty-third session,

1. Reaffirms its commitment to seek a comprehensive and generally acceptable solution to the financial problems of the United Nations, based on the principle of the collective financial responsibility of Member States and in strict compliance with the Charter of the United Nations;
2. Urges all Member States to meet their financial obligations under the Charter;
3. Renews its appeal to all Member States to make their best efforts to overcome constraints to the prompt payment of all assessed contributions and advances to the Working Capital Fund;
4. Expresses its appreciation to all Member States that pay their assessed contributions in full within thirty days of the receipt of the Secretary-General's communication, in accordance with regulation 5.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations;

5. Requests the Secretary-General, in addition to sending his official communications to the permanent representatives of Member States, to approach, as and when appropriate, the Governments of Member States for the purpose of encouraging expeditious payment in full of all assessed contributions, in compliance with regulation 5.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations;

6. Invites Member States also to provide information regarding their expected pattern of payments, in order to facilitate the financial planning by the Secretary-General;

7. Requests the Negotiating Committee on the Financial Emergency of the United Nations to keep the financial situation of the Organization under review and to report, as and when appropriate, to the General Assembly;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a comprehensive report on the financial situation of the United Nations, including updated information on the practices of other organizations of the United Nations system for achieving prompt and full payment of assessed contributions.
