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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

Administrative and financial implications of the draft  
resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.12

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

1. Under paragraph 3 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.12, the General Assembly would decide to provide the necessary finances to undertake the missions referred to in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution. In that paragraph, it was stated that several developing countries had been unable to accept missions to assess their needs in the field of the exploration and development of natural resources owing to lack of financial resources.
2. In his report on multilateral development assistance for the exploration of natural resources, 1/ the Secretary-General indicated that out of 28 developing countries expressing interest, only eight countries were able to formally accept such missions. From this, it is deduced that the reference to several developing countries in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution is to 20 developing countries.
3. Should the Second Committee recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution, the provisions contained in paragraphs 2 and 3 would be referred to the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, together with the Secretary-General's proposals for their implementation.
4. For the information of the Second Committee, the provisional content of those proposals is summarized as follows:

Twenty missions would be undertaken, consisting of two experts (one in energy and the other in mineral exploration and development) for three weeks. The

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1/ A/34/532.

expertise in the field of minerals exploration would be drawn from within the resources of the Secretariat by use of technical advisers, while outside expertise would be required for the energy field.

5. Should the proposals be endorsed by the General Assembly, the related expenditures for the biennium 1980-1981 would amount to \$323,400, broken down as follows:

<u>Consultancy</u>	\$
Fees	189,000
Per diem	50,400
Travel	<u>80,000</u>
	319,400
Miscellaneous services	<u>4,000</u>
Total	<u><u>323,400</u></u>

6. Bearing in mind the technical assistance nature of the proposed missions, the Secretary-General believes that if they are financed under the regular budget, they would appropriately be chargeable to section 24 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981 (regular programme of technical co-operation). 2/ It will be recalled that the Fifth Committee, at its 27th meeting, approved in first reading an amount of \$27,248,100 under section 24 of the proposed programme budget. Within this provision, it was indicated in the proposed programme budget for 1980-1981 that \$1,022,400 would be provided for field projects within the field of natural resources and further that \$1,255,500 would be provided for short-term advisory services in the same field. 3/

7. It will be recalled that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in reviewing the proposed programme budget for 1980-1981, drew attention to the established practice whereby the Secretary-General does not propose changes in the amounts involved under section 24, but rather leaves such changes to the initiative of the Assembly. 4/ The Secretary-General will thus explore the possibility of utilizing existing resources within the regular programme for technical co-operation to accommodate the additional requirements in respect of implementation of paragraph 3 of the draft resolution. On the basis of the above assumptions, no additional appropriations would be requested should the Second Committee recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft resolution in document A/C.2/34/L.12.

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2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session Supplement No. 6 (A/34/6), vol. II, sect. 24.

3/ Ibid., table 24.4.

4/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 (A/34/7), para. 24.2.