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*Official Records\**



FIFTH COMMITTEE  
62nd meeting  
held on  
Tuesday, 13 December 1983  
at 10.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 62nd MEETING

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Chairman: Mr. KUYAMA (Japan)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and  
Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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15 December 1983

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The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued)

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions A/38/L.37, L.38 and L.40 concerning agenda item 33 (A/C.5/38/75 and Add. 1)

1. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Secretary-General's statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/38/75) contained proposals for the implementation of resolutions A/38/L.37 and L.40. In paragraph 8 of that document, the Secretary-General indicated that he would have to undertake consultations before he would be able to ascertain the requirements for the Conference called for in resolution A/38/L.38.
2. The programme of work to implement resolutions A/38/L.37 and L.40 was costed in the Secretary-General's report at \$4,498,600, of which \$3,370,400 represented conference-servicing costs. The programme of work included the convening of six seminars, five symposia and two meetings of representatives of non-governmental organizations. The venues for the symposia, seminars and meetings were indicated in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's statement. The assumptions on which the costing of the seminars, symposia and meetings was based were explained in paragraph 4.
3. The Secretary-General had also informed the General Assembly that there would be a need to increase public information activities, as explained in paragraphs 9 to 15 of his statement. Those activities would include the production of two existing films in new languages, the organization of fact-finding missions, the production of newsletters, the organization of regional encounters and the issue of a booklet. The additional temporary staff requested were two Professional posts (one P-4 and one P-3) and one General Service post for the Division for Palestinian Rights and two Professional posts (one P-4 and one P-3) and two General Service posts for the Department of Public Information (DPI). Details on the temporary posts were provided in paragraphs 7 and 15 of the Secretary-General's statement.
4. Having taken into account the appropriations already approved in first reading by the Fifth Committee, the Secretary-General was requesting additional appropriations totalling \$1,288,000 under sections 1 (\$191,800), 27 (\$523,400), 28 (\$96,200) and 29 (\$476,600). The last-mentioned amount was essentially for travel and subsistence.
5. The programme of work relating to the seminars, symposia and meetings was, in the view of the Advisory Committee, somewhat ambitious, but ACABQ was not recommending any reduction on that account. In that connection, the Advisory Committee had noted that, for the biennium 1982-1983, appropriations had been approved for six seminars but, as could be seen from the programme budget performance report (A/C.5/38/49/Add.1, para. 1.11), only four seminars had actually been held, and the North American seminar had been held in New York. The Advisory Committee therefore hoped that any resources not used as a result of a modification in the programme of meetings would be applied to future requirements for that item.

(Mr. Mselle)

6. Subject to those observations, the Advisory Committee was recommending that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolutions A/38/L.37 and L.40, additional appropriations totalling \$1,288,000 would be required under sections 1, 27, 28 and 29, and that conference-servicing requirements not exceeding \$3,370,400 would be included in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted later in the session. An amount of \$64,800 would also be required under section 31, offset by the same amount under income section 1. The Advisory Committee was further recommending that the General Assembly should be informed that the adoption of draft resolution A/38/L.38 would not require any additional appropriation at the current stage.

7. Mr. VELLA (Malta) said that, as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee had pointed out, the costing of the meetings, seminars and symposia had been based on certain assumptions. However, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People had not yet taken a final decision on the venue of the various meetings. Given the highly political nature of the issue, he hoped that, should the need arise, an exception to General Assembly resolution 31/140 would be authorized.

8. Mr. KELLER (United States of America) said that the importance which some delegations attached to the item should not be allowed to divert attention from the financial implications of the draft resolutions. Paragraph 4 (a) of the Secretary-General's statement assumed incorrectly that the General Assembly must grant an exception to General Assembly resolution 31/140. However, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination had recommended in its report (A/38/38) adherence to the principle laid down in General Assembly resolution 31/140 to the effect that host Governments should defray the additional costs arising from the holding of meetings away from established headquarters. The Fifth Committee had endorsed that recommendation in approving the appropriation under section 1 in first reading and the Committee on Conferences had recently seen fit to draw attention to that decision. In that connection, he noted that the document containing the observations of the Committee on Conferences (A/C.5/38/75/Add.1) was listed in the Journal as part of the documentation for the item but had still not been circulated to members. He asked the Chairman for assurances that that document would be transmitted to the plenary Assembly for its consideration of the item.

9. The meetings, symposia and seminars scheduled for 1984 seemed to duplicate not only what had been done in previous years but also each other. He asked what the difference was between the issues to be dealt with at the various symposia, seminars and meetings and why it was essential for the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to host a reception in connection with each event. In that connection, he noted that the requirement for hospitality alone was \$39,000 for 1984. The amount requested for travel was also excessive. Of the \$1.1 million budgeted for that purpose, more than three quarters was for the travel of Secretariat staff and Committee members.

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(Mr. Keller, United States)

10. Many public information activities were to be undertaken by DPI on behalf of the Division for Palestinian Rights, and additional staff were being requested for that purpose. It seemed that every time DPI was requested to carry out a new activity, it had to be provided with additional staff. He did not understand why DPI could not carry out the planned activities, which required an intimate knowledge of the United Nations, without outside assistance.
11. Draft resolutions A/SPC/38/L.27/Rev.1, L.38 and L.45, which dealt with related items, would also involve additional financial requirements, which his delegation would also oppose. He requested a recorded vote on the additional requirements for draft resolutions A/38/L.37 and L.40.
12. Mr. ELIASHIV (Israel), explaining his delegation's vote before the vote, said that he would vote against the requirements for draft resolutions A/38/L.37, L.38 and L.40, and A/SPC/38/L.27/Rev.1, L.38 and L.45, for the reasons his delegation had given in the substantive debates.
13. The CHAIRMAN assured the representative of the United States that the observations of the Committee on Conferences, as contained in document A/C.5/38/75/Add.1, would be referred to the plenary Assembly for its consideration of the item.
14. He proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolutions A/38/L.37 and L.40, additional appropriations totalling \$1,288,000 would be required under sections 1 (\$191,800), 27 (\$523,400), 28 (\$96,200) and 29 (\$476,600), of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, and that an additional appropriation of \$64,800 would also be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase of the same amount in the estimates of income under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment). Conference-servicing requirements, estimated on a full-cost basis at \$3,370,400, would arise and the actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted later in the current session. He further proposed that the Committee should inform the General Assembly that the adoption of draft resolution A/38/L.38 would not require any additional appropriation at the current stage.
15. At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken of the Chairman's proposals.

In favour: Afghanistan, Argentina, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama,

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Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against: Australia, Canada, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Denmark, France, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal.

16. The Chairman's proposals were adopted by 68 votes to 6, with 13 abstentions.

17. Mr. MOJTAHED (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Mr. AL-KHALIFA (Bahrain) said that had their delegations been present during the voting, they would have voted in favour of the proposed appropriation.

18. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had voted against the estimate on budgetary grounds. He also wished to record his delegation's concern that the decision had been taken in the absence of the related report of the Committee on Conferences (A/C.5/38/75/Add.1). He took it that the decision did not affect the Fifth Committee's previous endorsement of the related recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the venues of the seminars and symposia in question.

19. Mr. DITZ (Austria) said that his delegation also was somewhat concerned that a decision had been taken in the absence of some of the relevant documentation. His delegation had abstained from voting for the reason set out in paragraph 10 of the observations by the Committee on Conferences.

20. Mrs. de HEDERVARY (Belgium) expressed her delegation's dissatisfaction with the procedure that had been followed. To have taken a vote when not all the documents were available constituted a dangerous precedent and an affront to the dignity of the Fifth Committee.

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.27/Rev.1 concerning agenda item 73 (A/C.5/38/81)

21. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution of the Special Political Committee would have the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary measures for the establishment of the University of Jerusalem, "Al-Quds",

(Mr. Mselle)

in accordance with Assembly resolution 35/13 B. The Secretary-General had indicated in his statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/38/81) that he would continue to require the services of two consultants for a period of three months each. The cost of those services and of other ancillary requirements was estimated at \$68,800; the additional appropriation would be required under section 6. The Advisory Committee recommended acceptance of the Secretary-General's estimate.

22. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.27/Rev.1, an additional appropriation of \$68,800 would be required under section 6 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

23. The Chairman's proposal was adopted by 85 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions.

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.38 concerning agenda item 69 (A/C.5/38/85)

24. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the programme of work arising out of the resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee as explained in document A/C.5/38/85 was similar to the programme that had been submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. Meetings would be held in Geneva and there would also be field missions to Europe and the Middle East. To assist the Special Committee in the performance of its task the Secretary-General was requesting temporary assistance funds for two Professional staff, one the P-3 and one other at the P-2 level, and for two General Service staff, the same numbers as had been required for the activities carried out in 1983. The Advisory Committee accordingly recommended the acceptance of an additional appropriation of \$255,700 under section 23 of the programme budget. An additional amount of \$34,400 would also be required under section 31, to be offset by the same amount under income section 1.

25. The CHAIRMAN proposed, on the basis of the Advisory Committee's recommendation, that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.38, an additional appropriation of \$255,700 would be required under section 23 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985, together with an additional amount of \$34,400 under section 31, to be offset by the same amount under income section 1. Conference-servicing requirements estimated, on a full cost basis, at \$438,700 would also arise. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement to be submitted at a later stage.

26. The Chairman's proposal was adopted by 72 votes to 2, with 15 abstentions.

27. Ms. van DRUNEN LITTEL (Netherlands) said that she had mistakenly pressed the button for an affirmative vote when she had intended to abstain.

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.45 concerning agenda item 75 (A/C.5/38/89)

28. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution of the Special Political Committee contained in document A/SPC/38/L.45 would have the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and assess all aspects of the adverse effects arising from the implementation of the decision by Israel to construct a canal linking the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea. The Secretary-General had indicated that to do so he would require outside expertise which, together with related ancillary services, had been costed at \$50,000 under section 7 of the programme budget. The Advisory Committee recommended the acceptance of that additional appropriation.

29. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that he had noted from the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/38/89) that there was some doubt as to the necessity of conducting field observations, the exact words used being "should it become necessary". The Fifth Committee, however, was being asked to state the need for a definite appropriation and he wondered if that was in fact the best way of proceeding. The Secretariat could perhaps wait until it became clear whether additional resources were required, and then, if necessary, approached the Advisory Committee for authority to expend extra funds under the standard resolution.

30. Mr. FORAN (Controller) said that the course suggested by the delegation of the United Kingdom was a viable alternative to the procedure proposed by the Secretary-General in his statement. Given the financial difficulties confronting the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, however, he would personally prefer the procedure outlined in document A/C.5/38/89, on the understanding, of course, that if the experts in question were not required they would not be employed and the funds appropriated would not be spent.

31. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/SPC/38/L.45, an additional appropriation of \$50,000 would be required under section 7 of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

32. The Chairman's proposal was adopted by 86 votes to 2, with 4 abstentions.

33. Mr. MASARWEH (Jordan) said that, had his delegation been present, it would have voted in favour of the recommendations in documents A/C.5/38/75, 81, 85 and 89.

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.3/38/L.52 concerning agenda item 12 (A/C.5/38/76)

34. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that under the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/38/L.52, the General Assembly would decide to establish, at its thirty-ninth session, an open-ended working group for the purpose of concluding the elaboration of the draft declaration on the human rights of individuals who were not citizens of the country in which they lived. The Secretary-General had assumed that the working group

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(Mr. Mselle)

would meet twice a week for six weeks during the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly which would involve conference-servicing requirements, estimated on a full-cost basis, in an amount not exceeding \$156,500, to be included in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing costs. The Advisory Committee recommended approval of the estimate.

35. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that should it adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/38/L.52, conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated on a full-cost basis at \$156,500. The actual additional appropriation that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage.

36. The Chairman's proposal was adopted.

37. Mr. EL SAFTY (Egypt) noted that the estimates for in-session documentation and post-session documentation differed by \$200 although the expected number of words was the same. He would like to know the reason for the difference.

38. Mr. FORAN (Controller) said that the budget officer responsible for drawing up the estimate was no longer in the committee room. It was possible that the difference was merely an error but if there was another explanation he would see that the Committee was informed.

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/38/29 concerning agenda item 49 (A/C.5/38/84)

39. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution adopted by the First Committee, contained in document A/38/29, would have the General Assembly renew the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and request it to hold three further sessions in 1984. The Secretary-General would be asked to continue to render the Ad Hoc Committee all necessary assistance. In paragraphs 3 and 4 of his statement, the Secretary-General estimated that assistance on a full-cost basis at an amount not exceeding \$1,597,600 to be included in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements.

40. Mr. KELLER (United States of America) said that his delegation was a strong supporter of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. He noted, however, that it was one of the committees which believed that it needed summary records. The members of the Fifth Committee would recall that the debate on that issue had resulted in a recommendation that wherever possible summary records should not be provided. It was estimated that on a full-cost basis summary records for the three meetings would cost \$642,500, or over one third of the entire amount requested. The Ad Hoc Committee functioned essentially through informal meetings; since its formal meetings were often quite perfunctory, the summary records were of little utility. His delegation felt, therefore, that the Ad Hoc Committee should be encouraged to re-examine its belief that it needed such records. Apart from that comment, his delegation was ready to support the recommendation.

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41. Mr. EL SAFTY (Egypt) said that, judging by the figures given in paragraph 4 of document A/C.5/38/84, there appeared to be no standard rate for documentation costs. He inquired on what basis expenditures for documentation were estimated.

42. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said he had observed that expenditures for documentation were estimated sometimes according to the number of words and at other times according to the number of pages; he wondered why two methods were used. His delegation fully shared the view expressed by the representative of the United States concerning summary records for the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean.

43. Mr. FORAN (Controller), replying to the questions raised by the representatives of Egypt and the United Kingdom, said that the expenditures listed in paragraph 4 of document A/C.5/38/84 had been estimated on the basis of the number of pages, the number of documents and the cost of documents distribution. In general, the slight differences in the figures were attributable to distribution costs. In the future, estimates would be made on the basis of the number of pages and the number of documents in order to eliminate or minimize discrepancies.

44. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/38/29, conference-servicing requirements estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$1,597,600 would arise. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

45. The Chairman's proposal was adopted.

Revised estimates under section 5B, Centre for Science and Technology for Development, arising from the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development in its resolution 4 (V) (A/C.5/38/64)

46. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the revised estimates under section 5B arose from the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development. At its fifth session, the Intergovernmental Committee had adopted resolution 4 (V) on national and regional activities. Among the requests contained in the resolution was that addressed to the Executive Director of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development to pursue and expand, within existing resources, his co-operation with Governments through the established network of national focal points. The Secretary-General was also requested to submit in an appropriate manner proposals aimed at strengthening or enhancing the functioning of the existing structure for national and regional activities, again within existing resources. In document A/C.5/38/64, the Secretary-General indicated how he intended to respond to the Intergovernmental Committee's requests.

(Mr. Mselle)

47. Paragraph 5 of that document indicated that the Secretary-General would endeavour to carry out those additional activities initially within the resources available under section 5B of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 and that, to the extent that that was not possible, the related programmatic adjustments and subsequent redeployment of resources would be reported in the context of the budget and programme performance reports on the biennium 1984-1985.

48. He had asked the Secretariat for additional information about the implications of paragraph 5 and had been informed that the amount of the funds concerned, estimated on a full-cost basis, was \$87,400, which would cover the requirements for a number of work-months of temporary assistance, consultants, the travel of staff and the travel of participants in ad hoc panels and in regional meetings, seminars and workshops at the national focal-point level. The Advisory Committee had taken note of the information received from the Secretariat and suggested that the Fifth Committee should recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/C.5/38/64.

49. Mr. PINHEIRO-GUIMARAES (Brazil), referring to the fact that the Secretary-General would endeavour to carry out the additional activities initially within the resources available under section 5 B of the proposed programme budget (A/C.5/38/64, para. 5), asked whether, as a result, some of the other activities of the Centre for Science and Technology for Development would be curtailed or postponed.

50. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (United Republic of Cameroon) observed that, when a similar question had been asked previously, the Advisory Committee had indicated that the words "within existing resources" meant that the Secretary-General would not request additional resources (see A/38/7/Add.16, para. 6). However, the report of the Secretary-General currently being discussed indicated that additional resources might be needed. He therefore asked whether the Advisory Committee and the Secretary-General had different interpretations of the words "within existing resources".

51. In accordance with financial regulation 4.1, the Secretary-General was obliged to spend appropriations for the purposes for which they had been voted. Accordingly, he asked what effect the absorption of the activities proposed in document A/C.5/38/64 would have on existing programmes, assuming that the Secretary-General did not request additional resources.

52. Lastly, he observed that committees other than the Fifth Committee should not take decisions on budgetary questions.

53. Mr. NKOUNKOU (Congo) said that his delegation attached great importance to the question of science and technology for development and to the strengthening of the existing structure for national and regional activities. His Government had welcomed the meeting on strengthening the scientific and technological capacity of the African countries, held in 1982. It was therefore regrettable that paragraph 5 of document A/C.5/38/64 made the controversial statement that the Secretary-General would endeavour to carry out the activities mentioned within the resources available.

54. Mr. HOUNGAVOU (Benin) supported the comments made by the representatives of Brazil, the United Republic of Cameroon and the Congo and asked the Secretariat to clarify the matter.

55. Mr. ORTEGA (Mexico) supported the comments made by previous speakers with regard to the first sentence of paragraph 5. Referring to the second sentence, he asked whether the related programmatic adjustments would be made after the adoption of the budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

56. Mr. FORAN (Controller) said that the situation outlined in paragraph 5 was compatible with the provisions of paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee contained in document A/38/7/Add.16, it being clearly understood that the second sentence of paragraph 5 meant that, before entering into any commitments, the Secretary-General would consult the Advisory Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 117: UNITED NATIONS COMMON SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (continued) (A/C.5/38/L.17 and L.20)

57. The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the Committee to draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.17 and the related amendments in document A/C.5/38/L.20.

58. Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada) said that the title of draft resolution A/C.5/38/L.17 should read: "United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission". He drew the attention of the Committee to a number of minor editorial changes in the draft resolution.

59. Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco) proposed the addition of a second paragraph in section VII of the draft resolution, the text of which would read:

"Decides to change article 6, paragraph 2 of the statute of ICSC to read:

"No member of the Commission may participate in the deliberations of any organ of the organizations on any matter within the competence of the Commission unless the Commission has requested him or her to do so as its representative. Nor shall a member of the Commission serve as an official or consultant of any such organization during his or her term of office".

The purpose of the amendment was to eliminate the requirement whereby three years must elapse before a former member of the Commission was entitled to serve as an official or consultant of an organization in the United Nations common system. He hoped that the sponsors of the draft resolution would accept that amendment.

60. Mr. PEDERSEN (Canada) said that unfortunately not all the sponsors of the draft resolution were in favour of the amendment proposed by the representative of Morocco. He inquired what the rationale was behind the three-year requirement in article 6, paragraph 2, of the statute of ICSC.

61. Mr. AKWEI (Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission) said that the members of the Commission had on two occasions considered the question of amending the statute and had reported to the Committee that they saw no need to do so.

62. Article 6, paragraph 1, stated that the members of the Commission should perform their functions in full independence and with impartiality. Paragraph 2 was a further amplification of that principle. If the amendment proposed by the representative of Morocco was adopted, the independence and impartiality of a member of the Commission who was seeking employment in an organization of the common system after the expiration of his term of office might be compromised; the purpose of the three-year requirement in article 6, paragraph 2, was to ensure that that possibility would not arise. Article 6, paragraph 2 was very appropriate and no member of the Commission had ever seen any need to change it.

63. Mrs. DORSET (Trinidad and Tobago) said that the amendment proposed by the representative of Morocco seemed to have far-reaching implications for the work of ICSC, particularly in view of the statement just made by the Chairman of the Commission. The amendment should be submitted in written form and discussed thoroughly before any decision was taken.

64. Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco) agreed that his amendment should be circulated in writing so as to facilitate its consideration. In that connection, he regretted the fact that the Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission, by not giving a balanced reply to the Canadian representative's amendment, had impugned the motives of the sponsor of the amendment.

65. A number of bodies in the United Nations system were composed of experts who were nominated to serve for a specific period of time but who were not subject to any specific restrictions. The purpose of his delegation's amendment was to ensure that members of the Commission enjoyed the same conditions as those enjoyed by their colleagues. He stressed the fact that the Committee could indeed amend the Commission's statute if it considered it to be necessary for the good of the Organization.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.