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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1978-1979

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions IV, V
and IX recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Peter G. BELYAEV (Byelorussian Soviet
Socialist Republic)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 68th meeting, on 18 December 1977, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statements by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/32/104, A/C.5/32/103 and A/C.5/32/112) concerning the administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions IV, V and IX recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55).

II. DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

2. In operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV, the General Assembly would decide to convene a United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held from 16 October to 10 November 1978. In operative paragraph 3, the Secretary-General is requested to invite, inter alia, representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) and representatives of the national liberation movements recognized in its region by the Organization of African Unity in accordance with Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX). Travel expenses and subsistence of representatives of these organizations would be paid for by the United Nations in accordance with the provisions of operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolutions. In operative paragraph 5 the Secretary-

General is requested to make the necessary arrangements for holding the Conference at Geneva, including the provision of summary records, and in operative paragraph 6 the General Assembly would decide that the languages of the Conference should be those used in the Assembly and its Main Committees.

3. In his statement (A/C.5/32/104), the Secretary-General estimated the financial implications of draft resolution IV recommended by the Second Committee at \$191,500 of which \$15,600 related to travel and subsistence for representatives of organizations who were invited to participate in the Conference in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 3237 (XXIX), 3280 (XXIX) and 31/152, and \$175,900 is for the cost of providing summary records for the Conference. The Secretary-General indicated that he intended to meet the requirements for travel and subsistence through redeployment of resources within section 11A. He also indicated that conference servicing costs would be included in the consolidated statement of conference servicing costs to be submitted at the close of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly.

4. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution IV recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55), no additional financial implications would be required in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979.

5. There was no discussion of this item in the Fifth Committee.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution IV recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55), no additional appropriations would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.

III. DRAFT RESOLUTION V

7. In operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution V, the General Assembly would decide to convene the fifth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at Manila from 7 May to 1 June 1979 and a pre-Conference meeting of senior officials at Manila on 3 and 4 May 1979.

8. In his statement (A/C.5/32/103), the Secretary-General noted that, while the fifth session of the Conference had been taken into consideration in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979, the pre-Conference meeting had not been anticipated. He indicated that the cost of the pre-Conference meeting would amount to \$42,000 on the assumption that the senior officials referred to in the draft resolution would be governmental officials and not subject to reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses by the United Nations. The Secretary-General also indicated that he would not request an appropriation at the present time for the costs involved.

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9. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution V recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55), no additional financial implications would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.

10. There was no discussion of this item in the Fifth Committee.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

11. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution V recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55), no additional appropriations would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.

IV. DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

12. In operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would reaffirm the urgency of establishing the common fund and, to that end, would request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to undertake consultations with a view to reconvening the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a Common Fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities early in 1978.

13. In his statement (A/C.5/32/112), the Secretary-General estimated that the total requirements for the implementation of the draft resolution would be \$405,800 for conference servicing costs. He added that these costs had been estimated on a full costing basis and that it would be indicated, in the consolidated statement of conference servicing requirements to be submitted at the close of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly, to what extent the costs involved could be absorbed within the existing resources.

14. In an oral statement the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions said that the Advisory Committee noted that the financial implications in question had not been included in the consolidated statement of conference servicing requirements (A/C.5/32/110). However, the Committee expected that these costs would be absorbed under section 23B of the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.

15. There was no discussion of this item in the Fifth Committee.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

16. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution IX recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/481, para. 55), no additional appropriations would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.