



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/32/485
18 December 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-second session
Agenda items 67 and 100

ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 2626 (XXV), 3202 (S-VI),
3281 (XXIX) and 3362 (S-VII), ENTITLED RESPECTIVELY
"INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SECOND UNITED
NATIONS DEVELOPMENT DECADE", "PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER",
"CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES" AND
"DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION"

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1978-1979

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions
I to IV recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480,
para. 41)

Report of the Fifth Committee

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

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 66th and 68th meetings, on 17 and 18 December 1977, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered statements of financial implications (A/C.5/32/106, A/C.5/32/102, A/C.5/32/108 and A/C.5/32/101) of draft resolutions I, II, III and IV recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480, para. 41).

II. DRAFT RESOLUTION I

2. In operative paragraph 2 of draft resolution I, the General Assembly would decide to convene a special session of the Assembly in 1980 in order to assess the progress made in the various forums of the United Nations system in the establishment of the new international economic order, and in operative paragraph 3 would establish a committee of the whole which should meet, as and when required,

during the intersessional periods until the special session of the General Assembly by acting as the focal point in: (a) overseeing and monitoring the implementation of decisions and agreements reached in the negotiations on the establishment of the new international economic order in the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, (b) providing impetus for resolving difficulties in negotiations and for encouraging the continuing work in these bodies, (c) serving, where appropriate, as a forum for facilitating and expediting agreement on the resolution of outstanding issues, and (d) exploring and exchanging views on global economic problems and priorities.

3. In his statement (A/C.5/32/106), the Secretary-General estimated the financial implications of the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee at \$351,500 for the biennium 1978-1979 to cover the conference servicing costs of two sessions of the committee of the whole in 1978-1979 and travel expenses of substantive staff to attend meetings of the committee. In addition, a preliminary estimate of \$1,226,500 was given to cover the costs of the special session of the General Assembly in 1980. The Secretary-General indicated that \$289,900 of 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 Assembly. He also indicated that he would not request an appropriation at this time for \$61,600 for travel of substantive staff.

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 I recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480, para. 41), no additional financial implications would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

5. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution I recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480, para. 41), no additional appropriations would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979.

III. DRAFT RESOLUTION II

6. In operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution II, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to establish a high-level governmental group of experts, on a basis of equitable geographical representation:

(a) To prepare a broad and comprehensive study of the present inflationary phenomenon whose effects continue to exert a negative influence on the economies of all countries, particularly the developing countries;

(b) To formulate recommendations on possible measures to combat the international inflationary process and make it possible to formulate policies designed to reduce the economic and social effects of inflation.

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7. In his statement (A/C.5/32/102), the Secretary-General noted that the financial implications of draft resolution II recommended by the Second Committee were estimated at \$50,000, to cover the costs of fees and travel for consultants to assist the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare background material in connexion with the meetings of the high-level governmental group of experts. The Secretary-General indicated that he would make every effort to meet these requirements from within existing resources. In addition, conference servicing costs were estimated at \$99,400 or \$130,300 depending upon whether a one-week session or a two-week session would be required, and these amounts would be included in the consolidated statement of conference servicing costs to be submitted by the Secretary-General at the close of the present session of the General Assembly.

8. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution II recommended by the Second Committee, the costs of consultants would be met within the amount appropriated under section 11A, and the conference servicing costs would be met within the amount appropriated under section 23.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

9. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution II recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480, para. 41), the costs involved would be met within the amounts appropriated under the programme budget for 1978-1979.

IV. DRAFT RESOLUTION III

10. In operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution III, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of a group of high-level experts appointed by him on the recommendation of Governments and with due regard to equitable geographical distribution, a report on the following, including conclusions and recommendations, taking into account studies already undertaken within the United Nations system:

(a) An estimate of the financial requirements over the next 10 to 15 years for the exploration and location of natural resources in developing countries which indicate to the Secretary-General their interest;

(b) The availability of multilateral mechanisms for the provision of adequate finance for the exploration of natural resources with special reference to the availability of soft loans with an element of subsidy for developing countries, bearing in mind, inter alia, the special needs of the least developed, land-locked, island developing countries and the most seriously affected among them;

(c) The availability of mechanisms for the transfer of technology to developing countries for exploration and exploitation of natural resources.

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11. In his statement (A/C.5/32/108), the Secretary-General estimated total requirements for the implementation of draft resolution III at \$178,400, of which \$58,600 would be required for consultants and the attendance of experts to two meetings and \$119,800 for conference servicing costs. The Secretary-General stated that the latter amount of \$119,800 had been estimated on a full costing basis and that a request for additional appropriations, should it be required, would be included in the consolidated report on conference servicing requirements which was being submitted to the General Assembly. As for the amount of \$58,600 for consultants and experts in the programme entitled "Natural resources, energy and transport" of section 5A of the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979, the Secretary-General indicated that he would attempt to absorb the cost within the total resources available in that section reflecting any surplus, if incurred, in the first performance report for the biennium 1978-1979.

12. In an oral statement, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions said that the Advisory Committee recommended that the Secretary-General should absorb the amount of \$58,600 in the programme entitled "Natural resources, energy and transport" of section 5A of the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979. As for the conference servicing costs in the amount of \$119,800, the Advisory Committee expected that these costs would be absorbed.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

13. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution III recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480, para. 41), no additional appropriations would be required in the 1978-1979 proposed programme budget.

V. DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

14. Under operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of a group of high-level experts, a report on:

(a) The guarantee powers of existing international financial institutions and their possible enlargement;

(b) The feasibility and desirability of establishing a multilateral insurance and reinsurance agency.

15. In his statement (A/C.5/32/101), the Secretary-General estimated the financial implications of the draft resolution at \$70,000. The estimates cover the costs of travel and subsistence for a group of high-level experts to consider steps relating to the acceleration of the transfer of real resources to developing countries, and of the services of senior consultants to prepare material for the group. In addition, the financial implications of conference servicing costs were estimated at \$43,400; however, such amount would be reviewed in the consolidated statement to be prepared at the end of the current session of the General Assembly.

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16. 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, there would be a need for an additional appropriation of \$50,000 under section 11A for travel and subsistence costs of the members of the high-level group. The Committee concurred in the estimate of \$43,400 for conference servicing costs but recommended that the amount be absorbed without additional appropriation.

17. Comments made in the course of the discussion of this question in the Committee are reflected in the summary record of the meeting (A/C.5/32/SR.66).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

18. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution IV recommended by the Second Committee (A/32/480, para. 41), an additional appropriation of \$50,000 would be required under section 11A of the programme budget for 1978-1979. Conference servicing costs would be met within the appropriations for the biennium 1978-1979.
