

UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/32/487
19 December 1977

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-second session
Agenda items 32 and 100

THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LAW OF THE SEA
PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1978-1979

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution
A/32/L.48

Report of the Fifth Committee

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

1. At its 67th meeting, on 17 December 1977, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered a statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/32/109) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/32/L.48.
2. Under the terms of the draft resolution the General Assembly would:
 - (a) Approve the convening of the seventh session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea at Geneva for the period 28 March to 12 May 1978 with a possible extension to 19 May should the Conference so decide, and empower the Conference, if the progress of its work warrants, to decide at that stage to hold further meetings under arrangements to be determined in consultation with the Secretary-General;
 - (b) Authorize the Secretary-General to make available appropriate facilities to that end, as well as the necessary facilities for informal consultations between sessions among delegations of States participating in the Conference.
3. In his statement (A/C.5/32/109) the Secretary-General estimated the financial implications of the draft resolution at \$3,056,300 comprising \$2,781,400 for direct conference servicing costs, and \$274,900 for other costs (including \$6,800 for the reclassification of a P-3 post to the P-4 level. Should the seventh

session of the Conference last eight weeks, instead of seven weeks, the estimated costs would increase by \$351,500 to a total of \$3,407,800 (comprising \$3,105,100 for direct conference servicing costs and \$323,700 for other costs again including \$6,800 for the reclassification of a P-3 post to P-4). The statement indicated that the direct conference servicing costs in question would be included in the consolidated statement of conference servicing costs to be submitted at a later stage, but that the adoption of the draft resolution would result in additional requirements of \$274,900 under section 2 B of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979. If the session was to last eight weeks the requirements would be \$323,700.

4. In an oral statement, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions informed the Fifth Committee that the Advisory Committee concurred with the estimated costs submitted in the Secretary-General's statement of financial implications (A/C.5/32/109); that the adoption of the draft resolution would result in additional appropriations of \$274,900 under section 2 B of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979 and that conference servicing costs not exceeding \$2,781,400 would be considered in the context of the consolidated paper on conference servicing costs for 1978. He further stated that any additional costs which might arise due to possible prolongation of the session to eight weeks should be absorbed within existing resources.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

5. The Fifth Committee agreed, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/32/L.48, conference servicing costs not exceeding \$2,781,400 would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference servicing costs and that additional requirements in the amount of \$274,900 would arise under section 2 B of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979.
