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WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1978-1979

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolutions I and II  
recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Hamzah Mohammed HAMZAH (Syrian Arab Republic)

I. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

A. Draft resolution I

1. At its 62nd meeting, on 15 December 1978, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/33/77) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution I recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14).
2. Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, inter alia, request the Secretary-General to undertake the following activities:
  - (a) The convening of a regional seminar on recourse procedures available to victims of racial discrimination and activities to be undertaken at the regional level;
  - (b) The convening of a round table of university professors and directors of race relations institutions on the teaching problems of racial discrimination;
  - (c) The undertaking of a study on education activities and activities of the mass media in the fight against racial discrimination.
3. In addition, the General Assembly would request the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to organize an international colloquium on the

prohibition of apartheid, racism and racial discrimination and the achievement of self-determination in international law with special attention to the principles of non-discrimination and self-determination as imperative norms of international law.

4. Furthermore, the General Assembly would invite the Secretary-General to provide the necessary staff and resources to ensure the effective implementation of the Programme for the Decade, bearing in mind the provisions of the draft resolution.

5. In his statement, the Secretary-General noted that a number of activities would be undertaken in 1979 in the context of the draft resolution (see para. 2 above).

6. Furthermore, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) would be requested to organize an international colloquium on the prohibition of apartheid, racism and racial discrimination and the achievement of self-determination in international law, with special attention to the principles of non-discrimination and self-determination as imperative norms of international law. The Secretary-General would be requested to provide the necessary staff and resources to ensure the effective implementation of the Programme for the Decade, bearing in mind the provision of the draft resolution.

7. The Secretary-General noted that, in accordance with the above assumptions, additional expenditures amounting to \$243,500 would be incurred in 1979. Of this total, an amount of \$58,600 would relate to the cost of the colloquium to be held under the auspices of UNITAR.

8. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions reported orally that the Advisory Committee recommended that, in view of the fact that the United Nations Secretariat had been carrying out activities in connexion with the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination for a number of years, it ought to be able to discharge the activities called for in the above-mentioned resolution at a cost not exceeding \$200,000. Consequently, the Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly be informed that, should it adopt the draft resolution, this would require an additional appropriation of \$200,000 under section 18 of the programme budget for 1978-1979. Conference servicing costs not exceeding \$416,466 would be included in the consolidated paper on conference servicing which will be presented towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly (see para. 20 below).

9. Comments made by delegations in the course of the discussion of this question are reflected in the summary record of the meeting (A/C.5/33/SR.62).

#### B. Draft resolution II

10. At its 62nd meeting, on 15 December, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/33/75) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution II recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14).

11. Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would, inter alia, request the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that the maximum publicity is given to the final documents of the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination in view of the need to combat racism, racial discrimination and apartheid.

12. It would also request the Secretary-General to take the following measures, in accordance with the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination:

(a) To prepare several studies analysing the struggle against all forms of racial discrimination;

(b) To organize during the second half of the Decade, at the level of each region (of the United Nations), regional seminars on action against racism and racial discrimination;

(c) To study the possibility of establishing an international fund on the basis of voluntary contributions with a view to assisting peoples and national liberation movements in their struggle against racism and apartheid.

13. In his statement, the Secretary-General indicated that he would endeavour to comply with the request mentioned in paragraph 11 by utilizing to the fullest the facilities and resources currently available to the Office of Public Information.

14. He also stated that the request mentioned in paragraph 12 could be divided in two parts:

(a) Preparation of studies analysing the struggle against all forms of racial discrimination;

(b) Organization of regional seminars. He assumed that the studies referred to in (a) above were the same as those recommended by the World Conference, namely:

(i) A study analysing the link between the struggle for the elimination of racism and the struggle for decolonization and self-determination;

(ii) A study on the link between racial discrimination and inequalities in the levels of education, nutrition, health, housing and cultural development;

(iii) A continuation of the study of the problems of migrant workers by the various organs within the United Nations system as well as by Governments, especially as regards racial discrimination encountered by migrants and their families; in particular an in-depth study should be made by the Secretary-General of the types and causes of discrimination against migrant workers and of specific measures which could be taken to combat them;

(iv) A study on the nature and types of recourse procedures available to migrant workers for the airing of grievances stemming from racial discrimination;

particular attention should be given to migrant workers who are either stateless or who have no home Government, embassy or consulate to represent them.

15. In carrying out the mandate referred to in paragraph 14 (b) above, the Secretary-General proposed to hold one regional seminar per year, beginning in 1979, in one of the five regions of the United Nations, on the basis of the membership of the United Nations regional commissions. The first seminar would be held in Europe.

16. The Secretary-General stated that, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution II recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14), this would require an additional appropriation of \$55,000 under section 18 of the programme budget of the biennium 1978-1979 and that similar expenditures would also be incurred in connexion with the seminars to be held in the four remaining geographical regions in the next two biennia, bearing in mind that it was not possible to assess accurately at this time the amounts involved for the programme budget of the biennia 1980-1981 and 1982-1983.

17. Additional expenditures amounting to \$350,467 under section 23 (Conference Services) would also be incurred in 1979 and would be included in the consolidated statement of conference servicing costs to be submitted towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly.

18. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions made an oral statement, in which he indicated that the Advisory Committee recommended that the General Assembly be informed that should it adopt draft resolution II recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14), this would require an additional appropriation of \$55,000 under section 18 of the programme budget for 1978-1979 (see para. 21 below).

19. Comments made by delegations in the course of the discussion of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/33/SR.62).

## II. DECISIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

20. The Fifth Committee decided by 71 votes to 4, with 11 abstentions, to report to the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution I recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14), an additional appropriation of \$200,000 would be required under section 18 of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979. Conference servicing costs not exceeding \$416,466 would be included in the consolidated paper of conference servicing which will be presented towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly.

21. The Fifth Committee also decided, by 75 votes to 13, with 1 abstention, to report to the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution II recommended by the Third Committee (A/33/447, para. 14), an additional appropriation of \$55,000 would be required under section 18 of the programme budget for 1978-1979. Conference servicing costs not exceeding \$350,467 would be included in the consolidated paper of conference servicing costs which will be presented towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly.