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FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 100 and 57

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1978-1979

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI  
PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION  
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Administrative and financial implications of the draft  
resolution contained in document A/SPC/32/L.17

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance  
with rule 153 of the rules of procedure

1. At its 36th meeting, held on 29 November 1977, the Special Political Committee adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/32/L.17.
2. In operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution the General Assembly, having considered the report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories (A/31/284) would request the Special Committee, pending the early termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967; and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross in order to ensure the safeguarding of the welfare and human rights of the populations of the occupied territories; and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter.
3. In operative paragraph 10 the General Assembly would request the Committee "to continue to investigate the treatment of civilians in detention in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967 and to submit to the Secretary-General a special report on that subject as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter".
4. In operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General

"(a) To render all necessary facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, with a view to investigating Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

"(b) To continue to make available additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

"(c) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee, and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available through the Office of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee which are no longer available;

"(d) To report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present paragraph".

5. For the purpose of arriving at an estimate of expenditures of the Special Committee in the next biennium, the following assumptions have been made on the basis of indications given by the Special Committee that its activities in 1978 would continue to follow the pattern of the programme of work undertaken by the Committee since 1970.

(a) The Special Committee would meet at Geneva early in 1978, for a period of approximately 10 working days, to continue its study and analysis of the evidence and of documentary and other material that it has received. At that meeting, the Special Committee would review developments in the occupied territories, receive further allegations and evidence of violations of human rights, if any, and initiate studies of relevant new developments which may have taken place;

(b) In summer 1978, the Special Committee would meet in Geneva for a period of approximately 10 working days to continue its study and analysis of further evidence, receive additional allegations and evidence of violations of human rights, if any, and begin the preparation of its draft report;

(c) In the latter part of September 1978, the Special Committee would meet at Headquarters for a period of approximately 10 working days in order to complete and adopt its report, which would run to approximately 100 pages in English. Should the Secretary-General as in the past issue the report as a document of the General Assembly, it would need to be translated, and reproduced in all the other official languages;

(d) Interpretation services would be required from and into English and French for the meetings held at Headquarters or in Geneva; documents prepared for the Special Committee's use will be drafted in English, and translation into French would be required;

(e) One member of the Special Committee would be stationed in Colombo, Sri Lanka, one in Dakar, Senegal and one in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia;

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(f) It may be anticipated that the Special Committee will require up-to-date information on current developments in the Middle East region; for this purpose, newspapers issued in the region will have to be reviewed on a day-to-day basis for information relevant to the work of the Special Committee; translation from Arabic and Hebrew into English and French of the appropriate articles appearing in Arabic and Hebrew publications would be required; in addition, the Special Committee will hear testimony of witnesses.

(g) Prior to proceeding on a field mission to Europe and the Middle East, it is anticipated that the Special Committee will review developments in the occupied territories and decide whether it considers such a mission necessary. Should the Special Committee so decide, the mission would probably take place during the late spring or early summer of 1978 for a period of not more than 21 days. Alternatively, the Special Committee may invite witnesses to travel to Geneva or New York to provide the Committee with information relevant to its mandate;

(h) During the field mission, the Special Committee would hear testimony and receive written statements from witnesses; it would be necessary for the Committee to insert paid notices in newspapers for the purpose of informing potential witnesses of its hearings; some witnesses may require financial assistance to make the journey to the place of meeting of the Committee in order to testify;

(i) During the field mission, interpretation from and into English, French, Arabic and Hebrew would be required. No summary records would be prepared; the oral testimony of witnesses would be recorded on tape and would be transcribed in Geneva, 1/ and the written testimony would be translated into English and French from Arabic or Hebrew; the records of oral and written testimony of witnesses would run to approximately 2,000 pages in English and would be translated into French.

6. Pursuant to operative paragraph 11 (b), which requests the Secretary-General to continue to make available additional staff members as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its task, the Secretary-General would propose to continue to provide for another year on a temporary-assistance basis the funds necessary to continue to maintain on the staffing table of the Division of Human Rights an additional junior staff member and a secretary for the purpose of assisting the Special Committee in indexing and preparing monthly summaries of transcripts of evidence which it continuously receives. In keeping the Special Committee furnished with up-to-date information on current developments in the Middle East region, newspapers issued in the region will be reviewed daily for information relating to the work of the Special Committee; translation from Arabic and Hebrew into English and French of the appropriate articles appearing in Arabic and Hebrew publications would be required. In addition, the Committee has now available to it the complete text of all military orders and proclamations issued by the Israeli authorities. In order for this information to be utilized by the

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1/ If the mission is undertaken before May 1978, the transcription would be made at the estimated cost of \$4,400 for approximately 2,000 pages in English. However, this will be offset by savings created by the possible changes in team composition as explained in foot-note 2 on page 6.

Committee, it would require translation from Hebrew into English and French. This increase in the amount of information available to the Committee in both Arabic and Hebrew and requiring translation in English and French is such as to require the full-time services of a Hebrew translator. Translation from Arabic into English and French would continue to be provided from within existing resources.

7. The request to the Secretary-General, in operative paragraph 11 (c) of the draft resolution, to ensure the widest circulation of the report of the Special Committee by all means available through the Office of Public Information, can also be complied with within available resources.

8. On the basis of the above assumptions, the financial implications of the draft resolution can be estimated as shown below:

	Human Rights <u>Section 18</u> \$
I. <u>Meeting in Geneva early 1978 (two weeks)</u>	
Travel and subsistence of three members	
Travel (first class)	4,400
Subsistence	2,500
Subtotal I	<u>6,900</u>
II. <u>Meeting in Geneva, summer 1978 (two weeks)</u>	
Travel and subsistence of three members	
Travel (first class)	4,400
Subsistence	2,500
Subtotal II	<u>6,900</u>

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III. Field mission to Europe and the Middle East  
in late spring or early summer 1978  
(approximately 21 days) - Geneva/London/  
Middle East region/Geneva 2/

(a) Travel and subsistence of three members		
(i) Travel (first class)		7,000
(ii) Subsistence		<u>4,900</u>
	Subtotal (a)	<u>11,900</u>
(b) Travel and subsistence of substantive and administrative staff (composition of staff listed below)		
Principal secretary	1	
Assistant secretary	1	
Administrative and Finance Officer	1	
Information Officer	1	
	<u>4</u>	
(i) Travel		5,500
(ii) Subsistence		<u>4,200</u>
	Subtotal (b)	<u>9,700</u>
(c) General operating expenses		9,400
(i) Rental of conference room and office space		
(ii) Local transportation		
(iii) Communications		
Administrative cables, telephone, etc.		
Press cables		

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2/ If the Committee finds it necessary to undertake its mission later than May 1978 brief minutes would also be prepared of the testimony of witnesses, as the time for transcription of testimony would be reduced; consequently, it would be necessary to base the preparation of the draft report on minutes taken in the field, in addition to the tape recordings. In that case, the composition of staff would include four précis-writers and two secretarial staff instead of the two verbatim reporters.

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(iv)	Air freight (sound equipment, tapes, etc.)		
(v)	Miscellaneous and unforeseen expenses (travel and subsistence of witnesses, costs for notices in newspapers, etc.)		
	Subtotal (c)	9,400	
	Subtotal III		31,000
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IV.	<u>Meeting at Headquarters, September 1978</u> (10 working days)		
(a)	Travel and subsistence of members <u>3/</u>		
(i)	Travel	7,600	
(ii)	Subsistence	2,000	
	Subtotal (a)	9,600	
(b)	Travel and subsistence of two staff members from Division of Human Rights		
(i)	Travel	2,200	
(ii)	Subsistence	1,100	
	Subtotal (b)	3,300	
	Subtotal IV		12,900
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V.	<u>Supplementary staff</u>		
(i)	Temporary assistance for indexing and summarizing of transcripts of evidence (P-2 staff member)	24,800	
(ii)	Secretarial assistance and overtime to service Special Committee (1 G-4)	17,800	

3/ Should the Special Committee designate a member to attend meetings of the General Assembly and participate in its consideration of the Special Committee's report, provision should be made for travel and subsistence for the member so designated, either through savings which may then be available to the Committee or in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979.

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(iii)	Temporary assistance for translation of newspaper articles, reports, written testimony and transcripts from Hebrew into English and French; and for translation of military orders and proclamations from Hebrew into English and French (P-3)	30,500
(iv)	Running expenses (subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, purchase of publications, special cartographic services, equipment, etc.)	<u>5,000</u>
	Subtotal V	<u>78,100</u>

SUMMARY

I.	Meeting in Geneva, early 1978	6,900
II.	Meeting in Geneva, summer 1978	6,900
III.	Field mission to Europe and the Middle East in late spring or early summer 1978	31,000
IV.	Meeting in New York in September 1978	12,900
V.	Temporary assistance for servicing Special Committee	<u>78,100</u>
	Total of costs under Section 18	<u><u>135,800</u></u>

9. Accordingly, should the General Assembly approve the draft resolution in document A/SPC/32/L.17 and on the assumption that the Special Committee will implement in 1978 a programme of work similar to that carried out in 1977, including field missions, an appropriation of \$135,800 would be required in the proposed programme budget for 1978-1979 under section 18 to cover the general costs of the work programme of the Special Political Committee. Furthermore, an appropriation of \$29,800 would be required for staff assessment under section 25 offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1.

10. In addition, there would be potential conference services costs in the amount of \$360,762.5 under section 23. The actual conference services costs for which an additional appropriation may be requested in due course would be determined after the Committee on Conferences has reviewed and adopted the work programme of the Department of Conference Services for the biennium 1978-1979, at which stage it would be possible to determine to which extent the costs involved might be absorbed within existing resources. The details of the conference services costs are shown as follows:

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	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total conference services Section 23 1978</u> \$
I. <u>Meeting in Geneva, early 1978 (2 weeks)</u>				
<u>Interpretation E,F</u>				
Salaries	6	14	141.1	11,852.4
<u>Verbatim records</u>				
Sound transcribers/ typists	9	14	59.7	7,522.2
Revision	2	14	137	3,836
Assembler	1	14	37.1	519.4
Travel	11			2,526.7
<u>Pre-session documentation</u> 133 pages (E,F)				
Salaries				
Translation	6	7	121.5	5,103
Revision	3	7	137	2,877
Typing	9	7	53.5	3,370.5
Travel	18			4,134.6
<u>In-session documentation</u> 10 pages (E,F)				
Salaries				
Translation/revision	1	14	137	1,918
Typing	2	14	53.5	1,498
<u>Post-session documentation</u> 450 pages (E,F)				
Salaries				
Translation	6	21	121.5	15,309
Revision	3	21	137	8,631
Typing	9	21	53.5	10,111.5

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	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total conference services Section 23 1978</u> \$
<u>Distribution</u>				1,504.6
<u>Reproduction</u>				422.4
<u>Other conference staff</u>				
Meeting room attendant	1	14	41.2	576.8
Sound technicians	2	14	41.2	1,153.8
Subtotal I				82,596.9

II. Meeting in Geneva,  
summer 1978 (2 weeks)

same requirements as for part I above = \$82,596.9

III. Field mission  
summer 1978 (3 weeks)

Interpretation A,E,F

Salaries

Interpreters	4	21	141.1	11,852.4
Verbatim reporters	2 (or 4 précis- writers) <u>4/</u>	21	137	5,754
Translators	2	21	121.5	5,103
Typing	2 (or 4) <u>4/</u>	21	53.5	2,247
Sound engineer	1	21	41.2	865.2
Travel of above staff				17,875
Subsistence				13,530
Subtotal III				57,226.6

4/ If the Committee finds it necessary to undertake its mission later than May 1978, brief minutes would also be prepared of the testimony of witnesses, as the time for transcription of testimony would be reduced; consequently, it would be necessary to base the preparation of the draft report on minutes taken in the field, in addition to the tape recordings. In that case, the composition of staff would include four précis-writers and two secretarial staff instead of the two verbatim reporters.

	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total conference services Section 23 1978 \$</u>
<u>IV. Meetings in New York</u>				
<u>September 1978 (2 weeks)</u>				
<u>Interpretation E,F</u>				
Salaries	6	14	169.1	14,204.4
Travel	6			6,690.6
<u>Pre-session documentation</u>				
<u>(Geneva) 133 pages (E,F)</u>				
<u>Salaries</u>				
Translation	6	7	129.5	5,439
Revision	3	7	137.5	2,887.5
Typing	6 non-local	7	49.4	2,074.8
	3 local	5	31.5	472.5
Travel	15			16,726.5
<u>In-session documentation</u>				
<u>(New York) 10 pages (E,F)</u>				
<u>Salaries</u>				
Translation/revision	1	14	137.5	1,925
Typing	1 non-local	14	49.4	691.6
	1 local	12	31.5	378
<u>Post-session documentation</u>				
<u>(New York) 120 pages (E,F)</u>				
<u>Salaries</u>				
Translation	6	6	129.5	4,662
Revision	3	6	137.5	2,475
Typing	6 non-local	6	49.4	1,778.4
	3 local	4	31.5	378

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	<u>Number of staff</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Daily rate</u>	<u>Total conference services Section 23 1978 \$</u>
<u>Verbatim records</u>				
(New York) (E,F)				
Salaries				
Verbatim reporters	16	14	129.2	28,940.8
Revision	2	14	137.5	3,850
Typing	9 non-local	14	49.4	6,224.4
	9 local	12	31.5	3,402
Travel	21			23,417.1
<u>Reproduction</u>				10,568
<u>Distribution</u>				274.5
<u>Other conference staff</u>				
Conference officer	1	14	31.5	441
Document clerk	1	14	31.5	441
Subtotal IV				138,342.1
Grand total, section 23, conference services:				360,762.5

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