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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 18th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MAYCOCK (Barbados)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/39/L.3 concerning agenda
item 20

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The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 116: PERSONNEL QUESTIONS (continued) (A/39/453; A/C.5/39/9, 11 and 17)

1. Mr. LOURENCO (Portugal), after referring to the efforts which the Secretariat had made, particularly in the area of recruitment, to implement the principles enshrined in the Charter and the guidelines laid down by the General Assembly in its resolutions, said that the results had none the less been far from satisfactory, as the Secretary-General himself had admitted. It was true that the number of under-represented countries in the Secretariat had decreased from 25 to 24, but, at the same time, the number of unrepresented countries had increased from 14 to 15 and the number of over-represented countries had continued to grow. Distribution by sex had not improved either, since the proportion of women in posts subject to geographical distribution had increased by only 0.3 per cent and had not attained the target of 25 per cent.
2. His delegation wished to emphasize that all the Portuguese-speaking African countries were listed among the unrepresented or under-represented States. Although Portugal had attained the midpoint of its desirable range, it was bound to consider itself disadvantaged from a qualitative viewpoint since, of the 16 Secretariat posts held by its nationals (2 P-2 posts, 5 P-3 posts, 5 P-4 posts and 4 P-5 posts), not a single one was at the policy-formulating level, despite the provisions of resolution 37/235. A further disadvantage was that more than half of Portuguese staff members had been appointed for a fixed term. Finally, notwithstanding the Secretary-General's observations in paragraph 9 of document A/C.5/39/9, and the promises made since September 1983, the Secretariat had made no contact with the Portuguese Government.
3. His delegation also regretted the failure of the specialized agencies to appoint more Portuguese technicians and experts, although Portugal itself continued to increase its co-operation with the countries of Africa. The sole aim of his remarks was to assist the Secretary-General to fulfil his promise of improving the distribution of staff members by sex and region. The organization of a system of career development for all categories of staff (A/C.5/39/11), regardless of the type of contract they held, was a step in the right direction.
4. His delegation shared the concerns expressed by the Secretary-General in his report on respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations (A/C.5/39/17) and, in that connection, noted with appreciation that the situation had improved markedly over the past four years, owing to the efforts made by the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations concerned, with the support of the General Assembly.
5. Mr. BARRETT (New Zealand) said that he had been struck by the Secretariat's acknowledged lack of success in two key areas of recruitment policy: balanced geographical distribution and the appointment of women. He concurred with the view of the Assistant Secretary-General for Personnel Services that the results were "disappointing", requiring "drastic measures". The Secretariat's proposals seemed to be on the right track. Extending the use of examinations (internal and external) to P-3 posts would ensure more objective selection at that level. Active

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(Mr. Barrett, New Zealand)

recruitment campaigns in developing countries, through the use of examinations, would provide the Secretariat with a pool of candidates for vacancies.

Accordingly, his delegation supported the sending of recruitment missions at regular intervals to every region of the world, including its own.

6. It had been disturbing to learn from the Assistant Secretary-General and the Joint Inspection Unit of the resistance within the Secretariat to human resources planning and the tendency to circumvent guidelines established by the General Assembly. It was necessary for the Secretary-General to take a firm hand in the matter.

7. The statistics relating to the employment of women were also of concern, especially since the documents before the Committee failed to reveal any concrete plans for achieving the goals, modest though they were, set for the Organization. As the United Nations Decade for Women approached its end, it would, perhaps, be appropriate to appoint a woman to a senior post and entrust her with responsibility for co-ordinating the Secretariat's efforts in that area.

8. New Zealand supported the programmes for recruiting nationals of unrepresented and under-represented countries, which, according to the projections, should improve the situation. There might well be good reasons why a country had not attained its desirable range, but efforts in that direction should be maintained.

9. Of the various elements comprising the proposed system of career development in the Secretariat, redeployment was without doubt one of the more useful. Active field service could also be made part of the career structure. With regard to the expense of implementing the plan (\$302,000), it might be advisable, instead of appropriating additional funds, to take a first step towards curbing the spiralling costs of administration by requesting the Secretariat to redeploy existing staff and to absorb the cost of equipment and furniture within existing appropriations.

10. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines) commended the Secretary-General for his efforts to apply the principles of the Charter by giving priority to the recruitment of nationals of unrepresented and under-represented countries. He hoped that the freeze on recruitment would not impede that process.

11. It was extremely important to increase the representation of developing countries at the senior and policy-formulating levels. However, although the principle of equitable geographical distribution should be taken into account, it should not be applied so restrictively that posts, particularly in the regional economic commissions, remained vacant. That would adversely affect the development plans of the countries concerned, the successful implementation of which required that the regional commissions should be utilized to the fullest extent possible.

12. The establishment of a career development system of the type envisaged by the Secretary-General accorded with Article 101 of the Charter. His delegation was convinced that a well-conceived promotion system was the cornerstone of a career development plan and that it was preferable to fill vacancies by promoting a qualified and deserving staff member than by recruiting an external candidate. The staff training and development programme - another element of the system - should

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(Mr. Garrido, Philippines)

emphasize financial management, which was common to all the activities of the United Nations. Before stating its views on the financial implications summarized in document A/C.5/39/11, his delegation would await the comments of the Advisory Committee.

13. His delegation supported recruitment by competitive examination and had no objection to extending the system to all posts at the P-1 and P-2 levels, as the Joint Inspection Unit recommended, and to the P-3 level, as the Secretary-General proposed. Promotion from the General Service to the Professional category should not be prohibited in the case of staff members who had reached the top step of their level and who, owing to their experience and competence, could assume more extensive responsibilities. The Professional category should be open to all staff members, through a special examination in which credit was given for experience. Furthermore his delegation encouraged the Secretary-General to continue his programme of incentives for acquiring linguistic skills.

14. Referring to the critical comments addressed by JIU to the Secretariat concerning the way in which the latter established priorities among various activities and utilized the resources made available to it, he said that the Secretariat should take account of constructive criticism. His delegation believed in the ability of the Secretary-General, through innovative personnel management, to build up a Secretariat that would reflect the Organization's ideal in every way.

15. Mr. LADOR (Israel) expressed his appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the composition of the Secretariat (A/39/453). He noted with satisfaction the slight increase in the number of women in posts subject to geographical distribution and hoped that that trend would accelerate in the years to come. He was also pleased with the brevity of the report, which was in line with the effort to reduce the volume of the Organization's documentation.

16. His delegation wished, however, to express its concern about the unjustified and unbalanced distribution of posts among Member States. The report showed little progress in that connection. Israel was still one of the 24 under-represented countries: its nationals occupied only four permanent posts in the Secretariat, all at the middle level, whereas the midpoint of its desirable range was 13 posts.

17. As a result of his delegation's statement at the thirty-seventh session, the Secretariat had sent a recruitment mission to Israel, where it had found more than 40 qualified candidates for various categories of posts at the United Nations. Almost six months after that mission, the results were still awaited. It appeared that its conclusions had been filed with the substantive departments, but the only replies received had been conspicuously negative.

18. In that connection, Member States were being told that, owing to the Organization's "permanent" financial crisis, new recruitment by the Secretariat would be frozen for six months. That measure, which was not wholly convincing, threatened to penalize the under-represented countries. A similar step could well be taken in respect of over-represented countries or those obscure posts which proliferated in the United Nations. Moreover, had the Fifth Committee approved the measure or was it simply being confronted with a fait accompli?

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(Mr. Lador, Israel)

19. It would seem that even posts left vacant by under-represented or unrepresented countries were not being filled by candidates from those countries. That bordered on discrimination. In the case of Israel, whenever the qualifications of a candidate had been recognized by the competent bodies of the Organization, the standard reply was that the position had been filled or that the candidate did not possess the required qualifications. The same was true even of candidates on the United Nations roster. The question arose whether it was the nationality or even the religion of Israeli citizens that was unpopular in certain circles, which would be contrary to the principles of the Charter. To the best of his knowledge, no United Nations staff member holding an Israeli passport had ever been the subject of a complaint.

20. He believed that he was speaking on behalf of the 40 or so unrepresented and under-represented countries when he urged the Secretariat to give the States concerned an opportunity to strengthen their presence in the Organization and, above all, not to allow the situation to deteriorate further. He expressed optimism in that regard, having found much encouragement in the statements of the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General for Personnel Services, who had undertaken to remedy the situation.

AGENDA ITEM 114: PATTERN OF CONFERENCES: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONFERENCES
(continued) (A/39/32)

21. Mr. OKEYO (Chairman of the Committee on Conferences) said that he would reply to the various questions raised during the discussion of the report of the Committee on Conferences (A/39/32). He would like to recall first that the four draft resolutions at the beginning of the report had been arrived at by consensus among the 22 members of the Committee, representing all the regional groups.

22. A number of delegations had raised questions about the meaning and implications of paragraph 4 of draft resolution A, which reaffirmed the principle of the division of responsibility for meetings in various parts of the world between the Department of Conference Services at Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva. The division was in fact a working arrangement within the Secretariat that had been in effect for some time and referred only to meetings included in the calendar of conferences approved by the General Assembly: it did not apply therefore to meetings of the regional economic commissions or their subsidiary organs, with the exception, however, of meetings held away from established headquarters. The principle had been enunciated in response to a request by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for assurances that optimum use was being made of services and facilities. It was referred to in section 29 of the proposed programme budget for 1984-1985 (para. 29.6), which covered estimated requirements for conference services in certain cities. Since the General Assembly had approved those estimates, it had already endorsed the principle.

23. The regional commissions and their subsidiary organs were covered by decentralized administrative and budgetary arrangements, save of course for regional meetings held in preparation for major United Nations conferences, which were included in the calendar of conferences and covered by section 29 of the programme budget.

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(Mr. Okeyo)

24. The Colombian delegation had asked whether the regional commissions could organize such preparatory meetings at the regional level. If the regional meeting was held at the headquarters of a regional commission, conference services at New York or Geneva, as appropriate, normally delegated responsibility to the commission in question, subject to the prior approval of a cost plan and after close consultations. General Assembly resolution 31/140 provided that regular sessions of the regional economic commissions could be held away from their established headquarters at United Nations expense, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. Regional preparatory meetings were governed by the provisions of paragraph 5 of that resolution: not only must the Committee on Conferences approve the change of venue, but the host Government must negotiate an explicit agreement with the Budget Division and the Office of Legal Affairs. It should also be borne in mind that the central New York and Geneva conference-servicing units were probably best placed to service those meetings because of the larger complement of staff at their disposal, thus making it possible to reduce the cost to the host country.

25. The Cuban delegation had asked about responsibility for substantive and technical servicing provided for in the Headquarters budget but not in that of the regional commissions. The question of responsibility for substantive servicing of regional preparatory meetings could clearly only be settled through mutual agreement between the substantive office or department involved and the regional commission, to which most of the activities in question would normally be delegated. The question of conference-servicing facilities arose as well but was a completely separate problem.

26. The delegations of Cuba, Egypt and Mexico had asked questions about draft resolution B, which dealt with the shortening of sessions and the institution of a biennial cycle of sessions of United Nations organs. The Committee on Conferences had considered the problem at the request of the General Assembly (resolutions 35/10 A, 36/177 A and 38/32 D). The explanation was simple: conference services, especially interpretation, were scarce and increasingly in demand; thus, the more efficiently conference services were used, the more bodies would be able to utilize them.

27. The representative of Mexico had asked about the origin of the wording of the second preambular paragraph of draft resolution B which emphasized "the continued need for maximum economy in the effective use of conference-servicing resources". That formula had been adopted by consensus by the Committee on Conferences because of the scarcity of the services in question. It was perhaps well to point out that the Committee's work had shifted slightly since the first General Assembly resolution on that topic. It was now concerned with relieving the overloading of Conference Services by predicting, on the basis of past experience, when bodies would need conference services and when such services could be dispensed with, as, for example, in the case of drafting committees or so-called "informal" consultations. In that way it was seeking to improve the utilization of conference services by reducing the number of meetings that required those services and increasing the number which could dispense with them.

28. The Cuban representative had asked what statistical data were referred to in

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(Mr. Okeyo)

paragraph 2 of draft resolution B. The Secretariat kept statistics of the number of meetings a body was scheduled to hold, those it actually held and those it postponed, and noted the time that was lost owing to late starting or early ending of meetings; it then notified the body concerned. Those figures were kept for all meetings held with interpretation services, whether "formal" or "informal". For the benefit of the Cuban delegation, he noted that all meetings without simultaneous interpretation were regarded as "informal".

29. In response to the comments made by the representatives of Colombia, Egypt and Mexico regarding paragraphs 4, 6 and 7 of the draft resolution, he pointed out that it was above all the responsibility of United Nations bodies themselves to ensure the effective use of conference services, the role of the Committee on Conferences being to help them in that task. That was why it was asking bodies to inform the Secretariat as far in advance as possible of the cancellation of any meetings and to make the best possible use of the time allocated to them by starting and ending meetings as scheduled. Similarly, under paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, one member of the bureau of each organ should be made responsible for drawing up specific proposals to ensure that the organ concerned made the most rational use of the services placed at its disposal. Draft resolution B was completely consistent with the provisions of previous General Assembly resolutions which invited United Nations organs to consider meeting biennially or to review their documentation needs.

30. There was no reason to fear that the measures provided for in paragraph 6 would lead to anomalies or abuses. In fact, the statistics on utilization of conference services were kept by the Secretariat and automatically supplied to the various committees at the end of each session, and the organs concerned would simply be requested to include those statistics in their reports and to comment on the reasons for any apparent under-utilization of allocated resources.

31. The amendment proposed by the representative of Egypt concerning the end of paragraph 7, and other amendments to the wording of the Committee's draft resolutions could be discussed when informal consultations on that item were resumed. If the Committee on Conferences had commended the Board of Auditors - to which Egypt had raised an objection - it was because the Board was the only organ, among those contacted, to have agreed to limit the number of its meetings in the future,

32. As to the possibility of instituting an abbreviated form of summary record, as mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution D, the representatives of Mexico and Sri Lanka had pointed out that the summary record in its present form was already an abbreviation and there was a risk that, in seeking to compress it still further, much of the substance of the proceedings might be left out. Interested delegations might wish to discuss the merits of that matter in informal consultations.

33. The objections of the representative of Egypt concerning the inclusion of the phrases "in all languages" and "in all required languages" in paragraphs 3 and 4 of draft resolution D were quite justified; the precise drafting changes to those paragraphs could be discussed in informal consultations. Another topic which could also be discussed was the documentation needs of treaty bodies.

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34. Mr. WYZNER (Under-Secretary-General for Conference Services and Special Assignments) said he wished to point out, with regard to the distribution of conference-servicing responsibilities among the various main headquarters locations, that he was meeting as often as possible with his colleagues at other main office locations to devise the most practical and effective working arrangements. He also intended to have special discussions with them in the near future on the specific subject of the servicing of preparatory meetings at the regional level.

35. A number of references had been made in the course of the debate to the question of the organization of conference services in Vienna. He mentioned the status of present arrangements and emphasized their provisional nature. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/140, United Nations bodies should plan to meet at their respective established headquarters, which was the place where the units of the Secretariat which provided those bodies with substantive services were situated.

36. In the case of Vienna, the responsibility of the Austrian Government was limited to making available, at its expense, adequate meeting room facilities if those at the Vienna International Centre were not sufficient, and the United Nations itself was responsible for all the other aspects of conference servicing. For that purpose, a separate provision of some \$10 million had been made for the current biennium, of which about \$3 million paid for 42 established posts and the balance for temporary assistance. Dependence on temporary assistance had proved a disadvantage, especially since the necessary personnel had not always been available at short notice. However, in present conditions, it was difficult to make more permanent arrangements.

37. In that regard, the Secretary-General had always held that the establishment of a single conference-servicing operation at the Vienna International Centre would be the most efficient and cost-effective solution. The Joint Inspection Unit, in a recent report, had come to the same conclusion. The Fifth Committee's consideration of JIU's recommendations and the position it would take with respect to paragraph 5 of draft resolution A proposed by the Committee on Conferences would, from that point of view, be of great value to the Secretary-General.

38. In response to the suggestions made by the representative of Sri Lanka, he indicated that the roll figure for each document which the Secretary-General was requested to submit to the General Assembly was based on a predetermined list, and distribution to the permanent missions represented only a small percentage of the total. The Publications Board ensured that the distribution procedures should be as effective and as simple as possible. The only practical method was to distribute the same number of copies of all the documents of interest to a particular body. A more selective method would involve delays and confusion. While it was true that the best way to economize was to cut down on the number and size of documents, it should be pointed out that reproduction and distribution were a relatively minor cost component. In fact, the estimated cost of one page of final documentation with approximately 500 words to the page, in six languages and printed in 7,000 copies, amounted to \$550; of that total, \$300 related to translation, \$150 to typing, \$75 to reproduction and \$25 to distribution.

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued)Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/39/L.3 concerning agenda item 20 (A/C.5/39/28)

39. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the first part of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General related to the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea. On the recommendation of ACABQ, the General Assembly had at its thirty-eighth session approved an appropriation of \$152,000 for that purpose. An appropriation of \$170,400 was now being requested, the slight increase resulting from the fact that some items of expenditure indicated in paragraph 13, in particular travel of staff on official business, had been underestimated in the request submitted at the thirty-eighth session. Moreover, salary and common staff costs for the Ad Hoc Committee and for co-ordinating the programme of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people had been estimated the preceding year on the basis of a delayed recruitment factor of 25 per cent, instead of the usual factor of 5 per cent, which had been applied to the current year. Bearing those facts in mind, the Advisory Committee had no objection to the approval of an additional appropriation of \$170,400 under section 3.

40. No appropriation was being requested at the current time in respect of the International Conference on Kampuchea. In the event that the Conference should be convened, the Secretary-General would seek the concurrence of the Advisory Committee to enter into the necessary commitments in accordance with the resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985.

41. The activities planned to co-ordinate the programme of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people would require an additional appropriation of \$373,400, as compared with the \$259,000 approved for the preceding year. That increase was likewise attributable to higher salaries and common staff costs. In addition, the Advisory Committee had been informed that the Office of the Special Representative would be transferred to Bangkok.

42. Document A/C.5/39/28 was the very first statement of programme budget implications to be submitted to the Fifth Committee. At first sight, it seemed that the new type of statement would be much longer than the simple statements of financial implications. However, the Secretariat should not be blamed for that, since such statements were bound to include much more information. The Committee should express its views on the subject and state whether it found the format of the statement of programme budget implications before it to be satisfactory.

43. Pointing out that paragraph 33 of document A/C.5/39/28 contained a breakdown of the additional appropriations which would be required should draft resolution A/39/L.3 be adopted, he said that the Advisory Committee was recommending approval of an amount of \$170,400 under section 3B and \$373,700 under section 3E. An additional appropriation of \$99,700 would also be required under section 31, to be offset by the same amount under income section 1.

44. Mr. EL-SAFY (Egypt), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, said it was his understanding that the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/39/L.3

(Mr. El-Safty, Egypt)

would be determined in the near future. As document A/C.5/39/28 was the first statement of programme budget implications which had been submitted to the Committee and as the Group of 77 had not yet had the opportunity to discuss the format of such statements, he had reservations as to the procedure for identifying programme implications. The statement under consideration should not therefore become a precedent and approval of the financial implication should not be regarded as acceptance by the Group of 77 of the reporting format.

45. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee should take a decision on the recommendations of ACABQ concerning the additional appropriation requested for the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea (A/C.5/39/28, section I) and the financial implications of a decision to reconvene the International Conference on Kampuchea (A/C.5/39/28, section II, para. 16).

46. Mr. NGUYEN XUAN ANG (Viet Nam), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that the convening of the International Conference on Kampuchea would constitute grave interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea and a threat to its independence and sovereignty, in violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The same considerations would apply to the convening of the Ad Hoc Committee, which supported the return to Kampuchea of those guilty of genocide against the Kampuchean people.

47. An effort must be made to find a comprehensive solution to the problem of Kampuchea which would respect its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and support the efforts of the Kampuchean people, who were determined to prevent the return of its executioners and the perpetration of new crimes, to reconstruct their country and build a new society. The activities of the Ad Hoc Committee ran completely counter to those objectives.

48. The United Nations had no role to play in the matter as earlier conferences on Indo-China had demonstrated. Moreover, since most delegations were anxious to limit the Organization's expenses, the waste of resources which would result from the approval of the financial implications of draft resolution A/39/L.3 would be avoided. Viet Nam was firmly opposed to any appropriation for the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea and for the conference itself.

49. Mr. KHEK (Democratic Kampuchea), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that he was not surprised at the objections raised by the representative of Viet Nam. In fact the problem of Kampuchea had been created by that country which, with the support of the Soviet Union, had invaded and occupied Kampuchea, thus endangering the security, stability and peace of South-East Asia and of the whole world. Without the invasion and war of extermination waged by Viet Nam, there would have been no document A/C.5/39/28, no item 20 on the agenda of the General Assembly and there would have been peace between the two peoples, which could have devoted their resources to the economic and social development of their respective countries. Viet Nam's opposition to document A/C.5/39/28 was clearly designed to hinder the work of the United Nations, to mask its acts of intervention and aggression against its weakest neighbours, to oppose the initiatives of the international community to resolve the problem caused by its expansionist policy and to oblige other States to accept Viet Nam's policy as a fait accompli contrary

(Mr. Khek, Democratic Kampuchea)

to the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and to international law. Such manoeuvres unmasked the true face of Viet Nam, which continued to practice the law of the jungle.

50. The evolution of the situation in Kampuchea during the six previous years had however demonstrated that the struggle of the Kampuchean people and the pressure exerted by the international community could force Viet Nam to comply with the United Nations resolutions which had called for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Kampuchea and for the people of Kampuchea to be permitted to exercise its right to self-determination, which were pre-conditions for the solution of the Kampuchea problem. Against that background, he appealed to all peace-loving and justice-loving peoples to vote in favour of the programme budget implications contained in document A/C.5/39/28.

51. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines), speaking in explanation of vote on behalf of the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, said he supported the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/39/L.3 in the hope that its adoption would help to establish genuine peace in South-East Asia.

52. Mr. EL-SAFY (Egypt), supported by Mr. PINHEIRO-GUIMARAES (Brazil), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that he had no substantive objection to the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/39/L.3 but that he could nevertheless not accept the way in which those implications had been presented.

53. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (Cameroon), speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, said that he would vote in favour of the Advisory Committee's recommendations but nevertheless wished to express reservations regarding the manner in which those implications had been submitted. The statement contained in document A/C.5/39/28 contained elements which, in his view, did not conform to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/227. In paragraph 3, for example, it was stated that the activities referred to in paragraphs 4 and 8 of the draft resolution were not covered in the medium-term plan, whereas the relevant resolution referred not to the medium-term plan but only to the current legislative mandate. The second sentence of paragraph 8 implied incorrectly that the identification of an order of priority necessarily authorized the reduction of certain basic activities.

54. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote on the Advisory Committee's recommendation that an additional appropriation of \$170,400 for the Ad Hoc Committee should be approved under section 3B of the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (A/C.5/39/28, sect. I).

55. At the request of the representative of Viet Nam, a recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast,

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Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Angola, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam.

Abstaining: Burkina Faso, Finland, India, Lebanon, Mexico, Mozambique, Panama, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania.

56. The recommendation was adopted by 89 votes to 16, with 10 abstentions.

57. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote on the Advisory Committee's recommendation that, should a decision to convene the Conference be reached in the course of 1985, the Secretary-General should seek the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to enter into the necessary commitments in accordance with General Assembly resolution 38/237 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1984-1985 (A/C.5/39/28, sect. II, para. 16).

58. At the request of the representative of Viet Nam, a recorded vote was taken.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Democratic Kampuchea, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Angola, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, German

Democratic Republic, Hungary, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam.

Abstaining: Burkina Faso, Finland, India, Mexico, Mozambique, Panama, United Republic of Tanzania.

59. The recommendation was adopted by 93 votes to 16, with 7 abstentions.

60. The CHAIRMAN said it was his understanding that the Committee agreed that an additional appropriation of \$373,400 for the Office of the Special Representative should be approved under section 3E of the programme budget. He pointed out that an additional appropriation of \$99,700 would also be required under section 3I (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase of the same amount in the estimates of income under Income Section 1 (Income from staff assessment). If there were no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to submit the recommendations of ACABQ as a whole to the General Assembly.

61. It was so decided.

62. Mr. BELYAEV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), speaking in explanation of vote, said that the Byelorussian SSR maintained its opposition to any discussion of the situation in Kampuchea in the United Nations, since that was contrary to the wishes of the Kampuchean people and their sole legitimate Government, and in addition violated the principle, enshrined in the Charter, of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States.

63. The political tenor of draft resolution A/39/L.3 and its programme budget implications showed that approval continued to be given for the use of United Nations resources to finance interference in the internal affairs of the Kampuchean people. Consequently, his delegation had voted against the allocation of resources for the Ad Hoc Committee of the International Conference on Kampuchea and for the Conference itself.

64. Concerning section III of document A/C.5/39/28, which dealt with the co-ordination of the programme of humanitarian assistance to the Kampuchean people, the Byelorussian SSR supported the noble objectives on which that programme was based. It was of the view that the United Nations should increase its assistance to the Kampuchean people. It was however necessary to point out that an attempt to give a political slant to that assistance programme was contrary to the interests of the Kampuchean people and the obligations of the United Nations.

65. Mr. NGUYEN XUAN ANG (Viet Nam), speaking in explanation of vote, said that his delegation was not opposed to the programme of assistance to the Kampuchean people mentioned in section III of document A/C.5/39/28. It was of the view, however, that such aid should be purely humanitarian and supplied directly to the beneficiaries, and not to forces opposed to the rebirth of Kampuchea.

66. Mr. FONTAINE ORTIZ (Cuba), speaking in explanation of vote, said that it was not difficult for the international community to identify those responsible for the extermination of the Kampuchean people. The Cuban delegation had voted against the

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recommendations of ACABQ on sections I and II of document A/C.5/39/28, because the proposed measures, far from helping to solve the Kampuchean problem, would hinder the search for a solution. It would be better to use the funds requested for other purposes more in keeping with the Charter of the United Nations.

67. His delegation wished to stress that it had no objections to humanitarian assistance. However, such assistance should benefit the Kampuchean people as a whole, not a minority which was using it for political ends.

68. Mrs. KNEZEVIC (Yugoslavia), speaking in explanation of vote, said that she had voted in favour of the recommendations of ACABQ for substantive reasons which her delegation had explained. She agreed with the many other delegations which found the format of the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/28) to be in some respects inconsistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 38/227.

69. Mr. ORTEGA (Mexico), speaking in explanation of vote, said that he had abstained in the voting on the recommendations of ACABQ concerning the two first sections of the statement of programme budget implications for substantive reasons already explained in other forums. It was however his opinion that the outcome of the vote did not mean that the format of the statement of programme implications was acceptable.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.