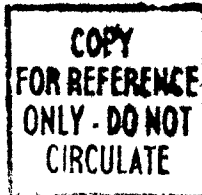


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FIFTH COMMITTEE
32nd meeting
held on
Wednesday, 21 November 1984
at 10.30 a.m.
New York

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 32nd MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MAYCOCK (Barbados)

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

CONTENTS

AGENDA ITEM 118: UNITED NATIONS PENSION SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS
JOINT STAFF PENSION BOARD (continued)

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.6, as orally
revised, concerning agenda item 85

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.7 concerning
agenda item 84

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.17 concerning
agenda item 86

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.14 concerning
agenda item 91

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30 November 1984
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The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 118: UNITED NATIONS PENSION SYSTEM: REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION BOARD (continued) (A/39/9 and Corr.1, A/39/608; A/C.5/39/15 and Corr.1, A/C.5/39/29)

1. Mr. FORAN (Controller) recalled that some delegations had observed that the inflation-adjusted rate of return on investments over the last 24 years had averaged 1.5 per cent a year, whereas the actuarial assumption implied a real rate of return of 3 per cent. However, while that assumption reflected possible results over a long period (30 years and more), the real investment return, which followed fluctuations in the economic situation, might sometimes be above and sometimes below the projected figure. Therefore, the actuarial assumption could not be used alone as a standard for assessing the management of investments.

2. It was of more interest to note that, over the 19-year period prior to 31 March 1984, the real investment return earned by public funds in the United States had been negative (-0.65 per cent a year) while the Fund had yielded a positive gain of 0.2 per cent. The poor results in both cases were attributable to high inflation rates during the 1970s. Since that time, the investment performance of the Fund had made substantial progress in real terms, achieving returns of 15.65 per cent a year over the last two years, 4.75 per cent over the last three years, 2.78 per cent over the last five years and 2.17 per cent over the last ten years.

3. Moreover, to the extent that comparisons between agencies quite distinct in nature were possible, it could be observed that, over the 17-year period to 31 March 1984, the investment return of the Fund had been higher than the average return of most public pension funds in the United States, while the level of risk assumed by the Fund had been lower.

4. The costs of managing the portfolio amounted to 0.11 per cent of the Fund's assets, of which 0.09 per cent represented fees to the institutional investment advisers. Both of those percentages were exceptionally low considering that, according to a survey published in 1983, investment management fees for large pension funds averaged 0.23 per cent of assets. In addition, the cost of custody services borne by the Pension Fund was 0.11 per cent, whereas for other funds the minimum cost was 0.14 per cent.

5. Finally, the increased travel expenses involved in managing the portfolio, which might appear proportionately high, were justified in terms of the scale and diversification of the Fund's investments. Thus, in view of the need to investigate new financial markets and increase investments in the developing countries, visits to Africa, Asia and Latin America were planned for 1985.

6. Mr. ALI (Chairman, United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board) said that he proposed to respond in turn to the comments made by the various delegations during the debate on agenda item 118.

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(Mr. Ali)

7. The Pension Board had, in fact, considered a number of solutions to correct the Fund's actuarial imbalance but had eventually decided that it would be preferable to present a coherent package of measures taking into account the concerns of member organizations as a whole. Moreover, the Board sought to spread the burden of economy measures equitably among all participants in the Fund, both present and future; it might, however, re-examine the total set of measures at a later date to see if the burden imposed on future retirees should be alleviated.
8. In any case, it was paradoxical to say that the proposed measures tipped the balance in favour of officials when the proposed economies represented 1.33 per cent of total pensionable remuneration, of which 1.28 per cent was borne by the participants. In addition, if the proposed measures were regarded as purely cosmetic, was the same not true of the recommended 1.5 per cent increase in contributions from Governments?
9. He categorically denied the implication that the composition of the Pension Board basically reflected the interests of the participants in the Fund. The Pension Board was a tripartite organ and the process of consultations among its three interest groups was the very basis of its operation. It should be stated, moreover, that many of the participants' representatives on the Board, invoking article 26 of the Pension Fund Regulations, which provided that deficiencies should be made good by organizations alone, had initially been opposed to any reduction in pensions. Nevertheless, as a result of long negotiations, the Pension Board had finally drawn up the proposed measures, which envisaged in particular a series of reductions in benefits. It was therefore quite wrong to say that two thirds of the Board represented staff interests.
10. Recalling the reasons for establishing the two-track system, he pointed out that, since the dollar was now a strong currency, the intention of the Pension Board's recommendation was to impose a ceiling on the dollar track. As a result of particularly hard negotiations, the Pension Board had agreed to fix that ceiling at 120 per cent of the local track.
11. As to the preservation of acquired rights, he pointed out that that principle had not been invented by the Pension Board and could be found in the pension legislation of various Member States, including the United States. In addition, two cases against the Fund for infringement of acquired rights were pending before the Administrative Tribunal, and the Pension Board could not fail to take those cases into account when contemplating any reduction of benefits. The question of acquired rights had been referred to mainly in connection with the Pension Board's recommendation that the higher discount rate for lump-sum commutation should be applied only prospectively. The Pension Board had taken that decision in the light of the Consulting Actuary's conclusions, which indicated that application of the new discount rate and the new unisex mortality table to all service, rather than simply to periods of service performed after 31 December 1984, would result in very minor savings (only 0.09 per cent of pensionable remuneration). Furthermore, the possibility of a decline in world interest rates should also be borne in mind, as that would require a downward adjustment of the discount rate used for the lump-sum

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(Mr. Ali)

commutation. Would those who advocated the application of the higher discount rate to all service today be prepared to accept that a lower discount rate (and a consequentially larger lump sum) should be applied to all service in that event.

12. With regard to the incorporation of an "expatriation" factor in pensions, it should be recalled that the General Assembly had approved the concept of total compensation. That principle should therefore be respected. At the same time, the right of officials to retire anywhere they wished was an essential element of the pension system. Finally, it was clear that the level of a pension must be related to salary.

13. Since delegations' views differed with regard to raising the statutory age of separation to 62, ICSC might be asked to undertake a further study of the effects of that measure on the geographical distribution of posts and on career development. Moreover, as the Pension Board had already recommended in 1983, the total rate of contribution should be raised to 24 per cent of the amount of pensionable remuneration by 1 January 1990. By way of comparison, the rate of contribution in the United States federal civil service was 36.52 per cent, of which the Government paid 29.52 per cent. He recalled, in conclusion, that the proposed measures formed a package; he therefore trusted that they would be approved as such by the Fifth Committee.

AGENDA ITEM 109: PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985 (continued)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.6, as orally revised, concerning agenda item 85 (A/C.5/39/30)

14. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), after summarizing the main provisions of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.6 on the International Youth Year, adopted by the Third Committee, drew attention to the statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/39/30.

15. In paragraphs 13 to 18 of that statement, the Secretary-General outlined the activities which would be undertaken if the Third Committee's recommendations were to be adopted. In paragraph 20, he stated that no modifications would be required in the approved programme of work for 1985. In paragraphs 21 to 24, he described the additional requirements which would arise and indicated the amounts which would be needed for consultants, travel on official business and conference-servicing.

16. Costs for travel on official business would arise under sections 6, 8, 11 to 14 and 27 of the programme budget. In paragraph 25, the Secretary-General indicated that it might be possible to meet the costs of travel on official business (\$70,800) without requesting any additional appropriation for the time being.

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(Mr. Mselle)

17. Conference-servicing costs of \$196,300 would arise under section 28 of the programme budget and would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of total conference-servicing costs to be submitted towards the end of the current session.

18. He drew attention to paragraph 16 of the Secretary-General's statement, where it was indicated that the General Assembly already had a very heavy programme of work and that, with each passing year, it was becoming more difficult for the Assembly to deal adequately with all items on its agenda. It was, however, for the General Assembly to decide how many plenary meetings it wished to allocate for the United Nations World Conference for the International Youth Year.

19. Mr. ORSATELLI (France) questioned the travel costs indicated in item (a) of the table in paragraph 24. The regional economic commissions would merely consider the recommendations of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year at their regular sessions. Was it really necessary to provide for travel by staff of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs?

20. Mr. KHALEVINSKY (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that major international events were evidence of the spirit of co-operation which motivated the international community and the United Nations. In view of the latter's financial situation, however, the Economic and Social Council had laid down guidelines in 1980 for future international years. It had specified in the annex to its resolution 1980/67 that expenditures relating to them should be met from the Organization's regular budget (para. 21).

21. His delegation thought that the solution proposed by the Third Committee, which was to convert plenary meetings of the General Assembly into a World Conference on the subject of youth, thereby overcoming various programme and budget problems, was very judicious.

22. The scheme for apportioning the costs of consultants, should financing difficulties arise, among the different programmes according to their relative priority was also worth while. However, as far as travel costs were concerned, caution was strongly advisable because it was hard to see how they could be reduced.

23. Although the proposals submitted by the Secretary-General were on the whole sound, he wondered about the additional appropriations requested. In paragraph 25, the Secretary-General stated that he would endeavour to carry out the activities requested "within existing resources in the programme budget for 1984-1985", but in the three preceding paragraphs he had requested additional resources. Sharing the concerns of the representative of France over staff travel costs, he said he also thought that any participation by representatives of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs could be dispensed with if the documents were prepared in advance.

24. Not wishing to depart either from the directives of the Economic and Social Council or the principles which must govern the programme budget, his delegation had serious reservations regarding the financial implications of the Third

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(Mr. Khalevinsky, USSR)

Committee's draft resolution as prepared by the Secretary-General. If those implications were put to a vote, his delegation would abstain and would take the same position with respect to other drafts of that kind.

25. Mr. GUIMARAES (Brazil) said that his delegation had firmly supported draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.6 during the deliberations in the Third Committee. As for the programme budget implications, however, it would abide by the terms of paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 38/227 and rule 153 of the General Assembly's rules of procedure. From that perspective, he thought that the Secretary-General should have full discretion to work out the estimates of anticipated costs. That was what he had done in his statement in document A/C.3/39/L.15, which had been submitted to the Third Committee at the time of the consideration of the draft and in which he stated that it might be possible to finance the activities requested, partially or totally, from existing resources. The statement which he was now submitting to the Fifth Committee in document A/C.5/39/30 was so different from his initial estimates that his delegation wondered about the reasons for the radical change.

26. His delegation would like to know if the programmes or programme elements which would be reduced in order to release the resources required for the implementation of the Third Committee's recommendations had been officially adopted by the General Assembly.

27. Lastly, the Secretariat might explain to the Committee how it interpreted the position of the Secretary-General, who should either submit what he considered to be the fairest possible estimate of the implications of a particular decision or should comply, as in the present case, with the directives of the Main Committees.

28. Mr. EL-SAFY (Egypt) said that he could not agree to the reduction of certain officially approved activities in order to finance new ones. The provisions of section I, paragraph 8, of General Assembly resolution 38/227 A were very clear on that point. Moreover, if a particular activity had to be reduced or eliminated, the decision must be made by the Member States and not by the Secretary-General. That was why, although Egypt fully supported the activities proposed in the Third Committee's draft resolution, it would ask for its name to be withdrawn from the list of sponsors, because paragraph 5 provided that the fourth session of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year should be convened "within existing resources".

29. Paragraph 25 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/39/30) indicated an intention to redeploy some consultant work-months earmarked for programme elements that had been identified as of lowest priority under the programme entitled "Global social development issues". He wondered how to interpret that redeployment: were the activities concerned to be cancelled, delayed or restricted?

30. Similarly, the Secretary-General had said in paragraph 26 of his statement that the redeployment of resources would be, following "normal practice", reported

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(Mr. El-Safty, Egypt)

in the context of the final performance report and in the programme performance report for the biennium 1984-1985. It certainly was not normal practice to change an established programme without the consent or knowledge of the Member States.

31. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that, the measures adopted by the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 21 of the annex to its resolution 1980/67 notwithstanding, expenditures for international years should be met from voluntary contributions. He shared the concerns expressed by the representative of France with regard to the proposed travel costs. His delegation also objected to the fact that when the Third Committee had considered the draft resolution, the observations submitted by the Committee on Conferences in document A/C.3/39/L.15/Add.1 in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 35/10 A had not been available.

32. Mr. NYGARD (United States of America) said he thought that the Third Committee had been correct in specifying that the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year should be convened "within existing resources". In doing so it had made a judgement about the relative urgency of the programme under consideration, which allowed the Secretariat the latitude to make transfers within the budget to finance activities as they were decided upon. Without that flexibility, there was a possibility that unused funds might remain at the end of the biennium. The idea expressed by the phrase "within existing resources" was thus entirely acceptable, since it implied savings.

33. Mr. ROY (India) agreed with the remarks made by the representatives of Brazil and Egypt. He himself was more concerned at the considerations expressed in paragraph 25 (a) of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General. It seemed to him that two programme elements would be affected by the new activities, in so far as they were "of lowest priority under the programme Global social development issues". He wondered what criteria had been used to classify those two programmes as unimportant, when in fact they were activities which had been duly approved by the General Assembly.

34. Mr. CHEBELEU (Romania) endorsed the statement made by the representative of the United Kingdom. Document A/C.3/39/L.15/Add.1 had not been submitted to the Third Committee at the time that draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.6 had been considered. However, the problem of scheduling the fourth session of the Advisory Committee had been discussed, and the Third Committee had agreed on 18 to 27 March 1985 for technical reasons. Thus it had not been unaware of the other possible options, which in fact were the subject of the missing document.

35. Mr. MAKTARI (Yemen) said that the proposed appropriations for travel of staff and conference servicing would be put to better use if they were directly allocated for development projects.

36. Mr. FORAN (Controller) pointed out that the appropriations requested for staff travel were intended mainly to enable a staff member from each of the regional commissions concerned (ESCAP, ECA, ECLAC and ECWA) to participate in the fourth

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(Mr. Foran)

session of the Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year. Those staff members would also be assigned to attend the fortieth session of the General Assembly to monitor its deliberations on youth issues.

37. Mr. ANNAN (Director, Budget Division) recalled that the rational utilization of the Organization's resources was an objective shared by the Secretariat and Member States alike. Consequently, the Secretary-General sought to submit well-thought-out statements of financial implications which took that principle duly into account. The selection of priorities was made in terms of available resources and a realistic assessment of the Organization's capacities. Modifications in programmes which the Secretary-General felt would be necessary and his requests for appropriations were nothing more than proposals which the Fifth Committee was free to accept or reject.

38. Mr. GUIMARÃES (Brazil) requested an explanation as to why the programme described in the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/39/30) was so radically different from the programme proposed in document A/C.3/39/L.15, and, in particular, why the Secretariat had arbitrarily decided to reduce documentation from 100 pages to 50 pages. If a Main Committee requested the Secretary-General to carry out a given activity "within existing resources", and the Secretary-General realized that it was impossible to do so, he ought to request additional appropriations in accordance with the procedure spelt out in rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and not give in to any pressure, as required by Article 100 of the Charter.

39. Mr. ANNAN (Director, Budget Division) replied that the differences pointed out by the representative of Brazil were not as important as they seemed. The document issued under the symbol A/C.3/39/L.15 was only an initial estimate of the implications of the draft resolution; the arrangements for financing had been definitively worked out in document A/C.5/39/30.

40. Mr. FORAN (Controller) noted that, in preparing his estimates, the Secretary-General took into account the directives provided by intergovernmental organs. Consequently, if he was asked to provide certain services "within existing resources", he must rely on his own judgement in submitting acceptable proposals. It was then up to the organs concerned to decide what action they would take on the basis of the information provided.

41. The CHAIRMAN invited the Fifth Committee to take a decision on the Advisory Committee's recommendation to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.6, as orally revised, no additional appropriation would be required for the biennium 1984-1985. Conference-servicing requirements, estimated on a full-cost basis, would amount to \$196,300. The actual additional appropriation that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted to the General Assembly later in the session.

42. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee was adopted by consensus.

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43. Mr. EL-SAFY (Egypt) said that he had joined in the consensus because he believed that no additional changes would be made in the programme.

44. Mr. GUIMARAES (Brazil) said he wished to point out that, if the draft resolution had been put to a vote, he would not have been able to accept the qualifying phrase "within existing resources". It was imperative that the Secretary-General should prepare his estimates without being subjected to pressure of any kind from whatever quarter, as Article 100 of the Charter stipulated.

45. Mr. TOMMO MONTHE (Cameroon) said that he was afraid that the solution that had been chosen might become a precedent. The question of the respective jurisdictions of the Main Committees had already been raised in the Fifth Committee by the Controller in December 1983 and also by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in document A/38/7/Add.16.

46. If the Main Committees imposed restrictions on the Secretary-General, he would then be forced to engage in impossible budgetary acrobatics in order to submit cost estimates that took into account both those restrictions and the budgetary constraints. Submitting acceptable statements of financial implications then became a veritable conjuring trick. The Fifth Committee might be obliged to reject estimates made in such conditions and the General Assembly would then find itself in the paradoxical situation of being unable to adopt a resolution that could not be implemented. The Secretariat should not be hampered, therefore, and it should be left to the Advisory Committee to make the appropriate recommendations. In future, no Main Committee should allow itself to place the Secretary-General in such a position.

47. If another such case should arise, his delegation reserved the right to call for a vote.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.7 concerning agenda item 84 (A/C.5/39/37)

48. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), presenting the oral report of the Advisory Committee on the statement of programme budget implications in document A/C.5/39/37, said that, under draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.7, the Special Rapporteur would be invited to continue to update the list of organizations assisting the racist and colonialist régime of South Africa and the Secretary-General would be invited to give the updated report the widest dissemination and to issue it as a United Nations publication.

49. In paragraph 10 of document A/C.5/39/37, the Secretary-General indicated that he estimated at \$58,200, on a full-cost basis, the additional requirements, for carrying out the activities requested in the draft resolution. Part of that amount could be absorbed within the resources already appropriated, but an additional appropriation of \$36,800 was being requested for translation and printing. According to the information provided by the representatives of the Secretary-General, that amount would be used to cover the costs of contractual translation and printing for the Arabic, the Chinese and possibly the Russian version of the report.

(Mr. Mselle)

50. As indicated in paragraph 3 of section A of General Assembly resolution 38/236, the net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing was to be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board. Accordingly, even if an appropriation of \$36,800 was requested under section 23, that did not necessarily mean that it would all be allocated specifically for contractual printing under that section. Since the appropriations approved for contractual printing were administered as a unit, transfers would be made between sections where there was under-expenditure and those where there was over-expenditure.

51. Consequently, the Advisory Committee was recommending that the Secretary-General should be authorized to enter into the necessary commitments to implement the provisions of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.7. It considered that no additional appropriation was necessary at the current stage. Should additional resources be required at a later stage, the Secretary-General could raise the matter in his final performance report for the biennium 1984-1985.

52. Mr. PIÑEIRO ARAMBURU (Argentina) said that the airline company Aerolíneas Argentinas should be removed from the list of banks, transnational corporations and other organizations assisting the racist and colonialist régime of South Africa. As the Special Rapporteur had been informed, the company had severed its links with South Africa in 1981.

53. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to take a decision on the Advisory Committee's recommendation to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution in document A/C.3/39/L.7, no additional appropriation would be required under in the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

54. Mr. LADOR (Israel) said that as his country was directly accused in the tenth preambular paragraph and in paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, his delegation was opposed to the financial implications set out in document A/C.5/39/37, because, even though no additional appropriations were requested, the expenditure envisaged would still have to be charged to the regular budget. However, that opposition should not be interpreted in any way as a criticism of the Advisory Committee's conclusions as presented by its Chairman.

55. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) and Mr. NYGARD (United States of America) said that for the reasons stated by their delegations in the Third Committee, they would vote against the ACABQ recommendation, since they were opposed in principle to the allocation of resources for the activities envisaged in the draft resolution, either within existing appropriations or in the form of additional appropriations.

56. At the request of the representative of the United States, a recorded vote was taken on the Advisory Committee's recommendation.

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus,

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Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden.

57. The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted by 85 votes to 9, with 11 abstentions.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.17 concerning agenda item 86 (A/C.5/39/38)

58. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), presenting the oral report of the Advisory Committee on the statement of programme budget implications in document A/C.5/39/38, drew attention to a typographical error in paragraph 12 of the document, where in subparagraph (a) (iii) "240" should be replaced by "24". The Secretary-General was not requesting any additional appropriations in that document.

59. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to take a decision on the Advisory Committee's recommendation to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution in document A/C.3/39/L.17, no additional appropriation would be required for the biennium 1984-1985. He pointed out, however, that the related conference-servicing requirements had been estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$189,400. The actual additional appropriations that might be required for that purpose would be indicated in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted towards the end of the current session.

60. The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted by consensus.

61. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that, according to paragraph 13 of document A/C.5/39/38, expenditure in connection with an international seminar was to be charged to section 24 of the programme budget. Although his delegation had gone along with the consensus, it wished to reiterate its opposition to the financing of operational activities from the regular budget.

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Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.14 concerning agenda item 86 (A/C.5/39/40)

62. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), presenting the Advisory Committee's oral report on the statement of programme budget implications in document A/C.5/39/40, said that the main proposal contained in the document was for the continuation of a temporary post at the P-3 level in the subprogramme on disabled persons up to the end of the biennium 1984-1985.

63. In that connection, he reminded the Fifth Committee that, in paragraph 6.16 of its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985 (A/38/7), the Advisory Committee had approved the continuation of that post for one year only and had specifically stated in paragraph 6.15 of its report that the P-3 post, which had originally been authorized in connection with the International Year of Disabled Persons, had been retained in the programme budget pending the result of an Administrative Management Service study on the staffing resources of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. However, the Advisory Committee had not yet received the results of that study. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee did not believe it was necessary on the basis of the information provided in document A/C.5/39/40 to modify the position it had taken the preceding year. It was not, therefore in a position to recommend approval of the additional appropriation of \$48,800 requested under section 6.

64. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to take a decision on the Advisory Committee's recommendation to inform the General Assembly that, it should adopt the draft resolution in document A/C.3/39/L.14, no additional appropriation would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

65. The Advisory Committee's recommendation was adopted by consensus.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.