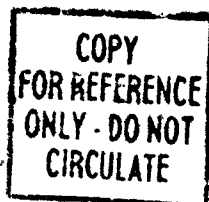


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THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

Official Records*



FIFTH COMMITTEE
41st meeting
held on
Tuesday, 4 December 1984
at 10.30 a.m.
New York

DEC 23 1984

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 41st MEETING

Chairman: Mr. MAYCOCK (Barbados)

later: Mr. DITZ (Austria)

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

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The meeting was called to order at 11 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 119: FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST (continued) (A/C.5/39/L.12)

(a) UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/39/468)

(b) UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/39/650 and 685; A/C.5/39/L.15)

1. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative Budgetary Questions), introducing the report of the Advisory Committee on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (A/39/685), drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on that subject (A/39/650). In section IV of his report, the Secretary-General indicated that the commitments entered into for UNIFIL for the mandate period from 19 April to 18 October 1984 had amounted to \$70,446,000 gross, and the Advisory Committee, in paragraph 8 of its report, recommended that the General Assembly should appropriate the amount corresponding to those commitments. The cost estimate for the period from 19 October 1984 to 18 April 1985 (section V of the report of the Secretary-General) was also \$70,446,000 gross, and the Advisory Committee again recommended that the General Assembly should appropriate that amount. Lastly, with regard to the cost estimate beyond 18 April 1985 in the event that the Security Council decided to renew the mandate of the Force beyond that date (section VI of the report of the Secretary-General), the Advisory Committee recommended approval of the Secretary-General's request for authorization to enter into commitments for the period from 19 April to 18 December 1985 at a rate not to exceed \$11,741,000 gross per month, provided that he obtained the Advisory Committee's prior concurrence for the actual level of commitments to be entered into for each mandate period that might be approved subsequent to 18 April 1985.

2. Mr. van der STOEL (Netherlands), introducing draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15 on behalf of the sponsors, said that the great majority of Member States firmly supported the concept of peace-keeping and accepted the notion that the costs of peace-keeping forces should be borne by Member States according to their assessed contributions. The fact that the resulting financial obligations were not fulfilled by all Member States was most regrettable. The serious financial difficulties with which UNIFIL was confronted as a result of some countries' continued policy of withholding assessed contributions were reflected in the report of the Secretary-General (A/39/650). Lack of financial resources was a constraining factor for peace-keeping operations in general and for UNIFIL in particular. The situation threatened not only to undermine the efficiency of the Force's operations but also to make it increasingly difficult to find additional Member States willing and able to take part in its operations. In that connection, he welcomed the fact that, as reported in document S/16831, the Government of Nepal had offered a contingent of troops for UNIFIL. The financial situation of the Force could be improved, however, only if Member States currently withholding contributions decided to discharge their financial responsibilities, and he addressed a special appeal to them to do so.

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(Mr. van der Stoep, Netherlands)

3. He then introduced draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12 concerning financial aspects of both UNDOF and UNIFIL. In the four years which had elapsed since the last revision of the standard rates of reimbursement to troop-contributing States, troop costs in the countries concerned had increased significantly, in some cases by more than 40 per cent. There was therefore general concern that the existing standard rates of reimbursement might no longer be adequate. The draft resolution accordingly requested the Secretary-General to proceed to a further review in consultation with the States contributing troops and to report on the matter to the General Assembly at its next session.

4. The CHAIRMAN announced that Iceland had become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12.

5. Mr. GOGUIKIAN (Lebanon), speaking on agenda item 119 (b), said that his delegation was deeply grateful to all Member States which, by their contributions, facilitated the continuing presence of UNIFIL in Lebanon and, in particular, to the troop-contributing countries. The United Nations presence represented an essential international guarantee required to safeguard Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, which, in turn, were indispensable pre-conditions for the country's progressive pacification. A withdrawal of that presence for financial reasons would have extremely serious repercussions, not only in Lebanon itself, but also in the Middle East as a whole.

6. As would be seen from the report of the Secretary-General (A/39/650), the shortfall in the UNIFIL Special Account owing to non-payment by certain Member States was now estimated at \$199, as against the previous year's \$173.9 million. As a result, troop-contributing States were reimbursed irregularly and with serious delays, which entailed heavy sacrifices for the less wealthy among them. Moreover, quite apart from its potential long-term negative effects on the Force's operation, the precarious situation with regard to the financing of UNIFIL could jeopardize efforts being made to resolve the financial crisis of the United Nations as a whole.

7. For the past ten years, his country had been the victim of a plot to weaken, divide and paralyse it. Today, thanks to the untiring efforts of Lebanon's Government of National Unity, there were at last some encouraging signs on the horizon. The maintenance of UNIFIL for some time to come was indispensable. He therefore urged members of the Committee to put to their respective Governments the reasons for remedying the alarming financial situation of UNIFIL, without further delay, inter alia, by envisaging a more regular procedure for the payment of contributions. His delegation also hoped that the Secretary-General's appeal to the most developed Member States to make voluntary contributions as a practical measure would be favourably received.

8. In conclusion, he thanked the Governments contributing troops to UNIFIL and paid a tribute to the commander of the Force and his officers and men.

9. Ms. CONWAY (Ireland) said that, in order to be effective, United Nations peace-keeping operations, which were generally recognized as constituting one of

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(Ms. Conway, Ireland)

the Organization's most successful innovations, had to have a sound and assured financial basis. Financial responsibility for peace-keeping operations duly authorized under the Charter should be shared equitably by all Member States. It was most regrettable that some Member States, while professing support for the maintenance of peace and security, persistently failed to honour their financial obligations in respect of UNIFIL, thereby placing an additional financial burden on the troop-contributing countries, some of which were developing countries badly in need of financial resources. The withholding of financial contributions could in future jeopardize the efficient functioning of peace-keeping operations and hinder efforts to ensure a wide geographical representation in the composition of peace-keeping forces, with unforeseeable consequences for the ability of the United Nations to fulfil its role in maintaining international peace and security.

10. It was disturbing to note from the report of the Secretary-General (A/39/650) that not only \$29.1 million of the \$221.1 million in outstanding contributions due could be regarded as collectible and that the \$199 million estimated as uncollectible represented 21 per cent of the total amounts apportioned among Member States to finance the costs of UNIFIL since its inception. In view of the importance which the international community attached to United Nations peace-keeping operations in general and to UNIFIL in particular, she appealed to Member States which were withholding contributions to reconsider their present policy in the interests of ensuring those operations' continued financial viability.

11. Turning to draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12, she said that since the latest review of reimbursement rates dated back almost five years, and in view of the significant cost increases and rises in inflation rates which had occurred since that time, a further review was needed in order to ensure that reimbursements were paid to the Governments of troop-contributing States at equitable rates.

12. Mr. MARYADI (Indonesia) said that his country had been a consistent supporter of United Nations peace-keeping operations and had contributed troops on a number of occasions in the past. It viewed the current financial situation of peace-keeping operations in the Middle East as unsatisfactory and shared the Secretary-General's concern that payments to contributing countries had sometimes been unduly delayed, placing an additional burden on those countries. Although every effort had been made and should continue to be made to ensure the maximum efficiency and economy of such operations, escalating costs had adversely affected in real terms the existing standard rates of reimbursement and it was high time that the General Assembly took steps to ensure a more equitable rate of reimbursement. Accordingly, his delegation supported draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12.

13. Mr. de CLERCK (Belgium) expressed deep appreciation to those countries which contributed troops to peace-keeping operations in the Middle East. Since it was aware of the financial burden which that represented for such countries, his delegation wished to become a sponsor of draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12.

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14. Mr. MAKTARI (Yemen) said that his delegation would abstain in the voting on draft resolutions A/C.5/39/L.12 and L.15. It refused to take any responsibility for the financing of peace-keeping operations in the Middle East: it was the Zionist entity that had invaded Arab territories and it should therefore shoulder the final burden of peace keeping. While his delegation recognized that the withholding of contributions from peace-keeping operations violated the Charter, it wished to point out that the Arab countries were the victims and not the perpetrators of aggression.

15. Mr. NYGARD (United States of America) said that consultations on the existing rates of reimbursement should not be limited to troop-contributing countries: since peace-keeping operations were funded from the regular budget, all Member States should be able to participate. He therefore suggested that the words "and with other interested Member States" should be inserted after the word "Lebanon" in the final paragraph of draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12.

16. Mr. VISLYKH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that reimbursements to troop-contributing countries represented the main items of expenditure for UNDOF and UNIFIL. His delegation believed that the existing rates of reimbursement were already excessive and that any further increase would substantially increase the cost to Member States of continuing those peace-keeping operations. The noble cause of maintaining international peace must not give rise to inappropriate expenditures and become a source of income for some countries. Accordingly, his delegation would vote against draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12 and believed that, at the fortieth session, the Secretary-General should report in detail on the outcome of his consultations with troop-contributing countries, indicating all the criteria used to devise acceptable rates of reimbursement.

17. Mr. EL-HOUDERI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that his delegation would not participate in the voting on draft resolutions A/C.5/39/L.12 and L.15 since, for reasons well known to the Committee, it refused to participate in the financing of peace-keeping operations in the Middle East.

18. Mr. NGUYEN XUAN ANG (Viet Nam) said that UNIFIL did not represent a practical solution to the Middle East problem. Those who were guilty of aggression in that region, and their supporters, should bear the cost of peace-keeping operations. His delegation would therefore vote against the draft resolutions.

19. Mr. ABRASZEWSKI (Poland) said that his delegation's position of principle with regard to UNIFIL and its financing remained unchanged. Poland could not support draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15 and would not contribute to the financing of UNIFIL. It also believed firmly that expenditures on peace-keeping operations did not come within the scope of either Article 17 or Article 19 of the Charter.

20. Mr. ERDEMBAT (Mongolia) said that his delegation would vote against draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15 and would not contribute to the financing of UNIFIL because it was its position of principle that the aggressor alone should bear the costs of such operations.

21. Mr. AL-JARRAH (United Arab Emirates) said that his delegation had always supported the maintenance of peace in the world, and particularly in Lebanon. It was aware of the difficulties facing the Lebanese people and, while south Lebanon was the victim of Israeli aggression and atrocities which were condoned in some circles, UNIFIL's task was a humanitarian one and must therefore be supported.

22. Mr. MELTKE (German Democratic Republic) reiterated his delegation's position that the cost of UNIFIL should be borne solely by the aggressor. His country refused to participate in the financing of UNIFIL because the Charter did not provide for Member States to honour aggressive acts. His delegation would therefore vote against draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15.

23. Mr. MOJTAHEED (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation would not participate in the voting on the draft resolutions. The presence of United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East was the result purely of Zionist occupation and the Zionists' refusal to recognize the rights of the Palestinian people. All costs of United Nations forces in the Middle East must therefore be borne by the aggressor and its supporters.

24. Mr. SHAHEED (Syrian Arab Republic) reiterated his delegation's position that UNIFIL's existence was the result of Zionist aggression and the continuing Zionist occupation of Arab territories. The Zionist entity and its supporters should therefore bear the financial burden of peace-keeping operations.

25. Mr. LADOR (Israel) paid a tribute to United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East and to troop-contributing countries. Peace-keeping operations were, by definition, generally of a temporary nature and could be no substitute for a peaceful settlement. The fact that peace-keeping operations in the Middle East were becoming a permanent feature was a regrettable outcome of the enmity shown towards Israel, ever since its creation, by most countries in the region. Had those countries been willing to live in peace with Israel, peace-keeping forces would not have been necessary. Year after year, Arab unwillingness to accept Israel's presence in the region had compelled the Security Council unanimously to renew the mandate of the peace-keeping forces and, if the Secretary-General was to implement the Security Council's decisions, he must be given the necessary financial means.

26. His delegation appreciated the fact that, like Israel, most members of the Fifth Committee fulfilled their financial obligations, and it regretted that a handful of countries, including a super-Power which professed to be a peace-loving nation, refused to pay their share of the costs of peace-keeping operations. Those countries, which rarely wasted an opportunity to insult Israel, contended that such operations must be financed by the State which they held responsible for the Middle East problem. Yet, since peace-keeping forces had been set up at the request of the international community, all Member States were equally responsible for their financing, in accordance with the principle of collective responsibility. One would at least have expected adherence to that principle by a super-Power that was a member of the Security Council. Past experience had, however, demonstrated the true intentions of that country and of others which refused to finance peace-keeping forces, for those countries had long been the primary instigators of

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(Mr. Lador, Israel)

conflict in the Middle East. Some of them went so far as to profess adherence to the principles of the United Nations while accusing others of non-adherence. It was high time that such excuses were seriously reassessed and that a single and impartial standard was adhered to in the sharing of peace-keeping costs.

27. He wished to point out that Israeli forces would be withdrawn from south Lebanon once nearby Israeli villages were able to live in peace and security, free from the threat of terrorist attack from south Lebanon.

28. He wished to remind those delegations which had referred to his country as "the Zionist entity" that he was proud to be the representative of zionism, but that his country had the right to be called by its proper name.

29. His delegation was grateful to the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15 and would vote in favour of it.

30. Mr. YONIS (Iraq) reiterated his delegation's position that financial responsibility for peace-keeping operations in the Middle East should be borne by the aggressor, namely the Zionist entity, whose representative was so proud to represent a movement which the General Assembly had condemned as racist and expansionist. He wished to point out that, had Israel not subscribed to zionism's racist and expansionist ideology, it would not have invaded Lebanon and committed atrocities there.

31. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that, in the first preambular paragraph of the English version of draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12, the decision cited should be "32/416" and not "34/416". If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee was now ready to vote on draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12, as orally amended by the United States representative.

32. At the request of the representative of Norway, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

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Against: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam.

Abstaining: Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Maldives, Romania, Yemen.

33. Draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.12 was adopted by 89 votes to 11, with 5 abstentions.

34. At the request of the representative of Norway, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15.

In favour: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Syrian Arab Republic, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Viet Nam.

Abstaining: Iraq, Maldives, Yemen.

35. Draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15 was adopted by 88 votes to 12, with 3 abstentions.

36. Mr. VISLYKH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), speaking in explanation of vote, reiterated his delegation's position of principle that all costs incurred in eradicating the results of Israel's armed aggression against Lebanon should be borne by the aggressor. Accordingly, his delegation would not share in the financing of UNIFIL and had voted against draft resolution A/C.5/39/L.15.

37. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 119.

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

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/SPC/39/L.17 concerning agenda item 75 (A/C.5/39/47)

38 Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Secretary-General had estimated that \$30,000 for consultant services in connection with the proposed university would be required in 1985. After deducting the \$7,300 left over from the appropriation approved at the thirty-eighth session, the requirement for 1985 stood at \$22,700. The Secretary-General expected to be able to cover that amount from savings made in the implementation of the 1984-1985 programme budget and was not therefore requesting an additional appropriation.

39. Mr. Ditz (Austria) took the Chair.

40. Mr. LADOR (Israel) said that his delegation had already stated its position on draft resolution A/SPC/39/L.17 in the Special Political Committee. It was opposed to any financial appropriation for the proposed university and would vote against the Advisory Committee's recommendations in document A/C.5/39/47.

41. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the Advisory Committee's recommendations, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/SPC/39/L.17, no additional appropriations would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1984-1985.

42. At the request of the representative of the United States, a recorded vote was taken on the Chairman's proposal.

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, 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.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

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Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Federal Republic of, Netherlands, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

43. The Chairman's proposal was adopted by 92 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

44. Mr. OKLESTEK (Czechoslovakia) said that, had his delegation been present, it would have voted in favour of the Chairman's proposal.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.18 concerning agenda item 94 (A/C.5/39/55)

45. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), presenting the Advisory Committee's oral report, said that document A/C.5/39/55 discussed the provision of summary records for the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). At its thirty-eighth session, the General Assembly, in resolution 38/32 E, had urged all treaty bodies to review their documentation requirements, with particular reference to the possible reduction of their need for summary records. It might be argued that that resolution was not applicable to CEDAW, which was not at the time in receipt of summary records. However, the Third Committee had recognized the importance of the summary records of bodies established to monitor the implementation of international human rights instruments and had authorized the provision and distribution of summary records of the meetings of the Committee. ACABQ agreed that the nature of the Committee's work required some form of record of its meetings, but hoped that CEDAW would give due regard to the General Assembly's request to consider the possible reduction of its need for summary records.

46. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.18, conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$249,800. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

47. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.18, conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$249,800. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt that proposal.

48. It was so decided.

49. Mr. VISLYKH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.18 was inconsistent with the General Assembly's overall policy of reducing the documentation requirements of United Nations bodies. If the proposal had been put to a vote, his delegation would have been unable to support it.

50. Mr. NYGARD (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined the consensus on the draft resolution, but not without reservations, since it ran

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(Mr. Nygard, United States)

counter to General Assembly resolution 38/32 E. In addition, he recalled that resolution 37/14 C urged subsidiary organs to keep their reports within the desirable limit of 32 pages, and he hoped that CEDAW would adhere to those guidelines.

51. Mr. MURRAY (United Kingdom) said that, while not objecting to the draft resolution, his delegation hoped that the Committee's reports would be reduced in length given the fact that it would be provided with summary records.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.37 concerning agenda item 100 (a) (A/C.5/39/63)

52. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), presenting the Advisory Committee's oral report, said that the statement of programme budget implications contained in document A/C.5/39/63 related essentially to the decision of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the introduction of Arabic, Chinese and Spanish as official languages of the Executive Committee. That decision would give rise to conference-servicing requirements which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$347,400 at 1985 rates. The actual additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

53. Mr. VISLYKH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) questioned the basis on which the Fifth Committee was being asked to consider the financial implications of draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.37, which contained no indication that a decision had been taken by the Third Committee with respect to the introduction of Arabic, Chinese and Spanish as official languages of the Executive Committee. The preambular section of the draft resolution simply "took note" of the Executive Committee's decision without specifically approving it.

54. Mr. ANNAN (Director, Budget Division) observed that the draft resolution did not contain the normal formulation used for instructing the Secretariat to proceed with the implementation of resolutions or decisions. However, it had been his understanding that, in the light of the decision of the Executive Committee and discussions with the sponsors of the draft resolution, the Third Committee wished the introduction of Arabic, Chinese and Spanish to go ahead in 1985. If the Fifth Committee disagreed with that course of action, the matter could be considered in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 1986-1987.

55. Mr. VISLYKH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that never, in his experience, had a decision been taken in the United Nations on the basis of a preambular paragraph alone. Either the Fifth Committee should ask for the draft resolution to be reformulated, or else it should reject the document as providing no legal justification for the consideration of its financial implications.

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56. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the representative of the Soviet Union was right to raise that legal question but suggested that, if the Third Committee had not wished to endorse the Executive Committee's decision, then it would clearly have said so. Moreover, formulations "taking note" of earlier decisions were, indeed, used by some bodies, such as the Economic and Social Council, in documents authorizing action by the Secretariat. The real issue, however, was what had been intended by the sponsors of the draft resolution.

57. Mr. EL-SAFETY (Egypt) said that the intention of the draft resolution was clear and the General Assembly surely had a duty to approve the necessary funds to implement the Executive Committee's decision.

58. Mr. UUSITALO (Finland) said that his delegation, as one of the original sponsors of the draft resolution, wished to indicate that there had been a clear understanding in the Third Committee that the Executive Committee's decision should be implemented. The preambular section of the draft resolution simply confirmed that decision and it provided a sufficient basis for the Fifth Committee to consider the related financial implications.

59. Mr. VISLYKH (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), said that paragraph 5 (a) of document A/C.5/39/63 showed that a decision was required by the General Assembly, which should be based on the properly recognized wording and not on the vaguely expressed intentions of the draft resolution's sponsors. If the Fifth Committee followed the latter approach in every case, chaos would result. There was a danger, too, in setting an unjustified precedent. His delegation therefore requested a vote.

60. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.3/39/L.37, conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$347,400 for 1985. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session. The representative of the Soviet Union had requested that the proposal be put to a vote.

61. The proposal was adopted by 91 votes to 7, with 4 abstentions.

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in paragraph 20 of document A/39/29, concerning agenda item 62 (A/C.5/39/67)

62. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), presenting the Advisory Committee's oral report, said that the adoption of the draft resolution contained in document A/39/29 would give rise to conference-servicing requirements which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$1,732,700. Additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted later in the session.

63. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution in document A/39/29, paragraph 20, conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$1,732,700. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Fifth Committee wished to adopt that proposal.

64. It was so decided.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.6/39/L.9 concerning agenda item 126 (A/C.5/39/68)

65. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that conference-servicing requirements arising from the adoption of draft resolution A/C.6/39/L.9 were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$430,800. Additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

66. Mr. NYGARD (United States of America) said that his delegation regarded the exercise proposed in the draft resolution as an inappropriate use of valuable resources which it could not support.

67. The CHAIRMAN proposed that, on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.6/39/L.9, conference-servicing requirements would arise which were estimated, on a full-cost basis, at \$430,800. The actual additional appropriations that might be required in that respect would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at a later stage during the current session.

68. At the request of the representative of the United States, a recorded vote was taken on the Chairman's proposal.

In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Sri

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Lanka, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, 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.

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

Abstaining: Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ireland, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden.

69. The proposal was adopted by 82 votes to 13, with 7 abstentions.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.