



General Assembly

Sixty-ninth session

Official Records

Distr.: General
22 June 2015

Original: English

Fifth Committee

Summary record of the 41st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 27 May 2015, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Ružička (Slovakia)
*Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions:* Mr. Ruiz Massieu

Contents

Agenda item 161: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces
in the Middle East (*continued*)

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (*continued*)

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be sent as soon as possible, under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned, to the Chief of the Documents Control Unit (srcorrections@un.org), and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrected records will be reissued electronically on the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org/>).

15-08320 (E)



Please recycle A small graphic of a recycling symbol, consisting of three chasing arrows forming a triangle.



The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.

Agenda item 161: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (continued)

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (continued) (A/C.5/69/L.44)

1. **Mr. Ballantyne** (New Zealand) said that the Committee had been unable to reach consensus on the sub-item.

Draft resolution A/C.5/69/L.44: Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

2. **Mr. Davidson** (South Africa), introducing draft resolution [A/C.5/69/L.44](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the Secretary-General, in the proposed budget for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 ([A/69/731](#)), stated that Israel had not paid the amount of \$1,117,005 resulting from the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996. The Secretary-General further explained that he had received no response to his subsequent letters addressed to the Permanent Mission of Israel in that regard, the latest dated 29 August 2014.

3. The Group stressed once again that Israel should pay the amount due in connection with the incident at Qana on 18 April 1996, and requested the Secretary-General to report on the matter to the General Assembly at its seventieth session. The Group reiterated its acknowledgement of the positive contribution made by UNIFIL to the restoration of peace and security in the region.

4. **The Chair** said that the Committee would defer taking action on the draft resolution.

5. **Mr. Goren** (Israel) noted that at the opening of the second part of the resumed session the Group of 77 and China had indicated its expectation of constructive engagement and frank dialogue and its readiness to engage constructively during the Committee's deliberations on all issues.

6. In the informal consultations on the financing of UNIFIL, his delegation had reached out, as requested and expected, and sought to engage the Group, but without response. Instead of engaging on the language of the draft resolution, the Group had, rather, preferred to submit a one-sided draft.

7. He called attention to the biased conduct politicizing the work of the Committee while singling out one delegation. Under no other item was such a practice tolerated; it ran counter to the commitments made by all groups and Member States, and was simply not how the Committee conducted its business.

8. In the informal consultations, he had also asked the proponents of the language in the draft resolution whether the singling out of one delegation had any precedent in the Committee, but without response. In fact, Israel was the only country so singled out.

9. **The Chair** expressed his confidence in the goodwill of all parties and the willingness to reach consensus. As the end of the second part of the resumed session drew near, he acknowledged the Committee's efforts, and appealed for it to be open to innovative solutions so that agreement could be reached in the time available. If members wished, they would succeed. Everything the Committee needed for its decisions was before it, there was no need for delay, the items were not new, though the environment was.

10. The world was changing, the environment in which United Nations peacekeepers operated was more challenging and more dangerous, the threats to citizens of many countries were real, the danger was clear and present. It was important to create conditions in which peacekeeping missions were secure, effective and efficient, and for them to create a safe haven for the most vulnerable. That was the Committee's responsibility and goal. While the Committee could not solve all the world's problems there and then, it could contribute to doing so. In time of crisis the wise built bridges; the Committee should negotiate successfully and build bridges before crisis arrived.

The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.