

United Nations
**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

Official Records



**FIFTH COMMITTEE, 1419th
MEETING**

Saturday, 12 December 1970,
at 11.30 a.m.

NEW YORK

Chairman: Mr. Max H. WERSHOF (Canada).

AGENDA ITEM 72

**Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1970
(continued)* (A/8083 and Add.1, A/8090 and
Add.1)**

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the further report of the Secretary-General (A/8083/Add.1) and the relevant report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/8090/Add.1).

2. In his report, the Secretary-General informed the General Assembly that 1970 expenditures were now estimated at \$168,956,950 and income estimates at \$31,140,835. If the Secretary-General's proposals were approved, the amount available for credit to Member States would be \$1,479,760, or an increase of \$980,010 over the original estimate.

3. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee noted with satisfaction that the adjustments under expenditure sections 7, 12 and 17 and income sections 3 and 4 made it possible to increase by \$980,010 the amount which would be available for credit to Member States and it approved the revised appropriations submitted by the Secretary-General.

4. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should approve the Secretary-General's proposals presented in document A/8083/Add.1. The supplementary estimates for the financial year 1970, already approved at the 1360th meeting, would be revised in line with that decision.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 78

**Audit reports relating to expenditure by the
specialized agencies and the International Atomic
Energy Agency (A/8025, A/8236):**

- (a) **Allocations from the Technical Assistance Account of the United Nations Development Programme;**
- (b) **Allocations from the Special Fund Account of the United Nations Development Programme**

5. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to study the audit reports relating to expenditure by the

specialized agencies and IAEA of funds allocated from the Technical Assistance and Special Fund accounts of UNDP (A/8025), together with the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/8236).

6. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee's views on the consolidated financial position of the UNDP Account and its subsidiary accounts, and the related report of the Board of Auditors, were described in detail in the Advisory Committee's report.

7. Mr. TARDOS (Hungary) said that he, like the Advisory Committee, regretted that the report of the Board of Auditors on the consolidated status of funds of UNDP as at 31 December 1969 had been submitted late in the session of the General Assembly and hoped that future reports of the Board would be submitted earlier in the session so as to enable the Fifth Committee to consider them in detail.

8. Moreover, he wondered whether it was really necessary for those reports to appear as a separate item on the agenda of the General Assembly. He felt that it would be more appropriate to refer them to the UNDP Governing Council for consideration or to submit them as an annex to the report of the Board of Auditors on the UNDP accounts.

9. Mr. TURNER (Controller) said that he too regretted that the report of the Board of Auditors had been submitted so late. Considering the number of bodies concerned, however, and the accounting procedures used, it would be very difficult to submit it much earlier in the session.

10. He considered the Hungarian delegation's second proposal most useful. He too doubted whether it was necessary to devote a separate agenda item to the question and he thought that it would be more appropriate to refer it to the UNDP Governing Council for consideration. In any case, the Hungarian delegation's proposal would be duly taken into consideration when the agenda for the twenty-sixth session was drawn up.

11. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should request the Rapporteur to inform the General Assembly direct that the Committee recommended it to take note of the reports in question and of the observations of the Advisory Committee.

It was so decided.

* Resumed from the 1361st meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 80

Implementation of the recommendations of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies (*continued*) (A/7968, A/7987 and Add.1, A/7999 and Add.1, A/8033, A/8128, A/8139, A/8217, A/8230, A/C.5/1299, A/C.5/1304 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1335, A/C.5/1351, A/C.5/L.1045/Add.1, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.41, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.47, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.48/Rev.1, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.49):

- (a) **Report of the Secretary-General (*continued*)** (A/7999 and Add.1);
- (b) **Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (*continued*)** (A/8139)

Form of presentation of the United Nations budget and the duration of the budget cycle (*continued*) (A/8217, A/C.5/1335, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.48/Rev.1, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.49)

12. The CHAIRMAN recalled that, at the previous meeting, the Soviet delegation had proposed three amendments (A/C.5/XXV/CRP.49) to the original text (A/C.5/XXV/CRP.48) of the paragraph which the Austrian delegation had proposed for insertion in the Committee's report on the item: first, to replace the words "decided to approve the Secretary-General's report" at the beginning of the paragraph by "took note of the Secretary-General's report"; secondly, to delete the second sentence of the paragraph; and lastly, to delete the last sentence. Since the submission of the Soviet delegation's amendments, a revised version of the paragraph had been circulated (A/C.5/XXV/CRP.48/Rev.1) which to a certain extent took into account the first two Soviet amendments. He asked the Soviet delegation if it maintained its third amendment.

13. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thanked the Austrian delegation for having improved the text of the paragraph that it had proposed for insertion in the report of the Committee on the form of presentation of the United Nations budget and the duration of the budget cycle, thus making it generally acceptable to his delegation. His delegation regretted, however, that the Austrian representative had not accepted its third amendment, namely, the deletion of the last sentence of the paragraph. His delegation had already had occasion to state its views on the question of the consultants to be recruited to examine the technical aspects of the question. It still held that position and felt that there was no point in allocating an additional \$36,000 for that purpose and that the existing manpower resources should be drawn upon. In a spirit of conciliation, his delegation would not press its amendment, but if the proposed paragraph was put to the vote it would have to abstain.

14. Mr. WOSCHNAGG (Austria) thanked the representative of the Soviet Union for the spirit of co-

operation that he had shown in helping his delegation to prepare a satisfactory text.

15. Mr. LAWRENCE (United States of America) said that he realized that the Fifth Committee had unfortunately had no choice but to defer its consideration of the question of programme budgeting until the next session, since the relevant documents had been circulated very late, in fact, not until the first week in December. He hoped that at the twenty-sixth session the relevant documents would, as far as possible, be prepared long enough in advance to enable the Committee to consider them during the first weeks of the session. The problem was much too complex for a body the size of the Fifth Committee to be able to make a useful study of it and to hope to make any progress in the consideration of the question. For example, it had so far been impossible to take any decisions concerning the Bertrand report¹ and little progress had been made in implementing its recommendations, although it had been published in September 1969 and had received the approval of nearly all delegations. That delay was due to the great complexity of the question with which it dealt, which included not only the form of presentation of the budget but also relationships between the budget and the order of priorities, the budget cycle, planning estimates, etc. He feared that the Committee might encounter the same difficulties at the twenty-sixth session and he foresaw that it might then decide to appoint a committee to consider the question, which would mean that no decision could be taken concerning Mr. Bertrand's recommendations before the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly. In his delegation's opinion, it should be dealt with by a body of experts such as the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, whose reactivation had been proposed.

16. Mr. TAITT (Barbados) said that at the twenty-fourth session (1309th meeting) his delegation had expressed the hope that the United Nations budget would shortly be presented in the form of a programme budget. The situation had changed considerably since that time, as was indicated in the excellent report by the Secretary-General on the form of presentation of the United Nations budget and the duration of the budget cycle (A/C.5/1335). A planning, programming and budgetary system (PPBS) was an entirely new concept for many delegations and although many studies on the question—including the outstanding Bertrand report—had been issued, some uncertainty remained. However, as the United States representative had said, the longer a decision to adopt the new system was delayed, the longer the same shortcomings would continue to exist in the United Nations budget. Obviously, that system would not in itself solve the problems, but it would at least enable delegations to understand some of the Organization's difficulties. There were many delegations which, in the course of the preceding five years, had been pressing for a review of budgetary procedures and the determination of priorities. At the twenty-fourth session, he himself had requested that

¹ See document A/7822 (mimeographed), of 3 December 1969.

the Secretariat should conduct a study on the real growth of the United Nations budget. The Secretary-General had done his best in his report² on the subject, but it was still impossible for delegations to know exactly how United Nations funds were used.

17. That being the case, PPBS would merely enable intergovernmental bodies to highlight the problem in order to tackle it more effectively, but it would then be incumbent on those bodies to take decisions, and the Secretariat should be perfectly aware of the fact that the introduction of PPBS would in no way reduce their decision-making powers. However, once the intergovernmental bodies' decisions had been taken, the Secretariat should be allowed some flexibility in carrying them out.

18. If the intergovernmental bodies agreed to the introduction of PPBS, they—particularly the Advisory Committee, CPC and perhaps even the Economic and Social Council—might have to consider altering their structure. Thereafter, they would have to concern themselves with the allocation of priorities and each delegation would from the start have to face the possibility of having to give up a favourite programme if it could not be completed before the end of the budgetary cycle.

19. As far as the duration of the cycle was concerned, his delegation would have no difficulty in agreeing to a two-year cycle, provided that at the end of every year the deliberative organs evaluated the progress of the individual programmes. PPBS would make it possible for them to ascertain what progress had been achieved but they would themselves have to have the courage to abandon programmes which seemed to be doomed to fail. Under programme budgeting, unlike existing procedures, the primary responsibility of the deliberative organs would be to decide on programmes.

20. He agreed in many respects with the views expressed by the Netherlands representative at the previous meeting. The introduction of PPBS would necessitate co-ordination between the decision-making and review bodies, and probably would require the consolidation of certain bodies which were concerned with specific aspects of the United Nations budgetary system.

21. The Secretary-General stated in paragraph 18 of his report (A/C.5/1335) that it would contribute to effective programming if the resolutions which were at present passed by the various programme-formulating bodies in their respective fields could be limited in the first stage to statements of intention. That was a valid criticism of the present system, and a further reason for establishing co-ordination between the various bodies and for reorganizing the whole of the system. To take the activities proposed for the Second United Nations Development Decade as an example, how could the Fifth Committee decide on the financial implications of a particular programme and select it

in preference to another without hearing the opinion of the Second Committee? The Secretariat might therefore include in its report on programme-budgeting a study of the changes which would have to be made in the United Nations system if PPBS was to operate with maximum effectiveness.

22. His delegation would support the paragraph proposed by the Austrian delegation for inclusion in the report. The sum of \$36,000 to be appropriated for consultants was minimal if one considered that in the long run their services might enable the United Nations to save \$36 million. He hoped that the mock-up of the 1972 estimates which the Secretary-General would be requested to include in his report would make it feasible for delegations to assess the merits of the new form of budget presentation by comparison with the existing system.

23. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines) said it was regrettable that the reports under discussion had not been distributed earlier, thereby making a more detailed discussion possible. He had on that account welcomed the amendments proposed by the delegation of the Soviet Union.

24. Mr. RHODES (United Kingdom) said that he would support the proposal of the Austrian delegation. He concurred in many respects with the views of the representative of Barbados on PPBS. However, the reports considered were not really concerned with PPBS but with budgeting by organizational units, and it was questionable whether that first step was being taken in the right direction. In any case, a committee of 127 members could not deal properly with such a complex question; that was why his delegation was among the sponsors of the draft resolution concerning the reactivation of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts, which was a more appropriate body for such a study.

25. Mr. FAROOQ (Pakistan) proposed to modify the revised text submitted by the Austrian delegation by inserting, in the first sentence, the words “, through the Economic and Social Council,” after the words “twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly”. Since CPC was dealing with the matter, it was quite legitimate for the Secretary-General's report to be transmitted to the General Assembly by the Economic and Social Council.

26. Mr. TURNER (Controller) said that, while he understood the purpose of the proposal made by the representative of Pakistan, it might give rise to timing difficulties. If the General Assembly was to have the report of the Secretary-General before it early in the twenty-sixth session in order to be able to study it at leisure, it would be preferable to adopt the most direct mode of transmission. The intervention of the Economic and Social Council was liable to complicate and delay matters.

27. Mr. ESTABLIE (France) said that during the general discussion his delegation had pointed out that steps would have to be taken at the current session to follow up the question of the form of presentation

² Document A/C.5/1307 pertaining to agenda item 73, issued separately (offset).

of the budget in the months to come, without necessarily embarking on a budgetary adventure by instituting a new system, whatever the name bestowed on it. PPBS was still a rather vague concept, on which very few studies were available, and few Governments had actually adopted it. He was grateful for the efforts of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee to present the budget in a more rational manner. The next step was to continue the work which had been started, without going too far for the moment or becoming involved in discussions of complex theories on budgeting. His delegation supported the Austrian proposal and considered the amendment proposed by the representative of Pakistan relevant, but if that amendment was to give rise to difficulties, as the Controller had said it might, it might be best to keep to the existing text, bearing in mind that there had to be co-ordination with other bodies.

28. Mr. GUPTA (India) thanked the Austrian delegation for having taken account of the suggestions he had made on the previous day and expressed his support of the amendment proposed by the representative of Pakistan. Since CPC was dealing with the question and the Economic and Social Council had adopted resolutions on it, it was quite logical that the report which the Secretary-General was requested to make to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session on the progress of the relevant studies should be considered by the CPC and the Council before the twenty-sixth session. It would be recalled that, in its resolution 1558 (XLIX) of 19 October 1970, on the seventh session of CPC, the Council had explicitly provided for the Secretary-General's report to be transmitted through it. In his view, the difficulties which the Controller had mentioned could certainly be overcome on the same basis as had been adopted during the current year for the discussion by CPC and the Council of the Bertrand report.

29. Mr. KEENLEYSIDE (Canada) said that his delegation had had some difficulty in accepting in its original form the text submitted by Austria, but was in a position to support it with the two amendments proposed by the Soviet Union delegation.

30. Mr. TAITT (Barbados) assured the representative of the United Kingdom that he was quite aware of the fact that the report of the Secretary-General did not really deal with PPBS; it did, however, represent an advance towards PPBS, or towards a particular form of that system: the representative of the United Kingdom would certainly agree that true PPBS was non-existent. What was happening was that the United Nations was making an experiment in budget presentation.

31. Mr. WOSCHNAGG (Austria) expressed the view that the effect of the Pakistan proposal, if adopted, would simply be to have the Secretary-General's report hastily endorsed by the Economic and Social Council at a very brief resumed session, a pointless procedure and one which would not enable the Council to decide in full knowledge of the facts. The result would be to delay consideration of the report by the Fifth Com-

mittee. He requested the representative of Pakistan not to press the proposal.

32. Mr. VAN VLOTEN (Netherlands) supported the Pakistan delegation's proposal. It might give rise to some practical difficulties, as the Austrian representative had observed, but the Fifth Committee should not ignore the important principle involved in having the report considered and transmitted by the Economic and Social Council.

33. Mr. FAROOQ (Pakistan) thanked the Netherlands and French representatives for their support and the Indian representative for his practical suggestion. In connexion with the Austrian representative's comments, he observed that at the current session the Fifth Committee itself had spent very little time on the important question under discussion, and that the Economic and Social Council would, therefore, be at least as well placed as the Committee.

34. Mr. TURNER (Controller) said that he had been guided solely by practical considerations and wanted especially to make sure that the report was not submitted to the General Assembly at too late a stage of its twenty-sixth session. However, if, as the Indian representative had suggested, the Secretary-General's report was to be considered first by CPC in September 1971 and thereafter by the Economic and Social Council at its resumed summer session in October 1971, the practical difficulties might not be very serious.

35. Mr. WOSCHNAGG (Austria) said that, in those circumstances, he accepted the amendment proposed by the Pakistan representative.

36. Mr. TARASOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked that the last sentence of the paragraph proposed by the Austrian delegation (A/C.5/XXV/CRP.48/Rev.1) be put to the vote separately.

The sentence was adopted by 52 votes to 11, with 3 abstentions.

The paragraph as a whole, as modified by the Pakistani amendment, was adopted³ by 65 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

37. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly an appropriation of \$36,000 under section 3, chapter III of the 1971 budget estimates, mentioning in its recommendation the reservations of some delegations.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 73

Budget estimates for the financial year 1971 (continued)* (A/7822, A/7937, A/7968, A/7987 and Add.1, A/8006, A/8008 and Add.1 to 5, 8 and

³ See A/8266, para. 28.

* Resumed from the 1417th meeting.

Corr.1, 9, 10, 12 and 13, A/8032, A/8033, A/8072, A/8122, A/8133, A/8209, A/8210, A/C.5/1296, A/C.5/1298, A/C.5/1302 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/C.5/1303 and Add.1, A/C.5/1305, A/C.5/1307, A/C.5/1309, A/C.5/1310, A/C.5/1315 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1317, A/C.5/1319, A/C.5/1320 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1322 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1325 and Add.1, A/C.5/1328 and Add.1, A/C.5/1329, A/C.5/1331, A/C.5/1332, A/C.5/1333, A/C.5/1349, A/C.5/1358, A/C.5/L.1047/Rev.1, A/C.5/L.1056)

*United Nations Building in Santiago,
Chile (A/8008/Add.13, A/C.5/1349)*

38. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee's report on the United Nations Building in Santiago, Chile (A/8008/Add.13), like the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1349), dealt with two separate aspects of the question: the programme of modification and improvement of existing premises and the proposed construction of an additional office building.

39. With regard to the first aspect, the Advisory Committee commended the Secretary-General on having achieved substantial savings, which had enabled him to surrender \$250,000 of the 1970 appropriation. On that basis, the total amount made available to him in 1969 and 1970 had been reduced to \$1,078,500, of which \$710,500 had been spent by 31 October 1970. The Advisory Committee endorsed the Secretary-General's request (*ibid.*, para. 6) that the unspent balance at the end of 1970 should be carried forward to the 1971 financial year.

40. As to the proposed construction of an additional office building, the Advisory Committee had noted that the Secretary-General had been unable to accept the plans as drawn up by the architects, which provided, *inter alia*, for moving the cafeteria and the library, a move which the Secretary-General had considered unnecessary. The Secretary-General had therefore proposed two alternatives: that he might be authorized to obtain preliminary plans and cost estimates only; or that on the basis of such plans he might also go ahead with the preparation of working drawings and detailed estimates. The second course might expedite construction by several months but would require the appropriation of an additional \$200,000 in 1971.

41. The Advisory Committee's opinion was that in building projects of such magnitude a cautious approach was preferable; the General Assembly should have the opportunity to study the revised preliminary plans carefully and approve the design before the working drawings were prepared. If the Committee agreed, no additional funds for the project would need to be appropriated in 1971, as the revised plans could be prepared within the appropriation already approved for that purpose in 1970.

42. Mr. RODRIGUEZ LOPEZ (Cuba) said that money saved on the construction programme at Santiago should be put to good use, such as relief for the victims of natural disasters.

43. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should recommend that the General Assembly should take note of the reports of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1349) and the Advisory Committee (A/8008/Add.13) on the United Nations Building in Santiago, Chile, concur in the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and authorize the Secretary-General to carry over into 1971 the unspent balances of the funds provided in 1970 for the programme of alterations and improvements to the existing premises.

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION C SUBMITTED BY THE FIRST COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/8250 ON AGENDA ITEM 26* (A/C.5/1359)

44. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that under the terms of draft resolution C submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/8250, para. 21), the General Assembly would endorse the recommendations and decisions contained in the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.⁴ The Assembly would also note with appreciation the report of the Expert on Applications of Space Technology⁵ and endorse his recommendations regarding the organization of technical panels and the grant of fellowships.

45. In his note (A/C.5/1359) the Secretary-General estimated that adoption of the draft resolution by the General Assembly would call for an additional appropriation of \$15,000 under section 5, chapter II, of the budget for 1971; that amount would be needed to provide for travel of the Expert on Applications of Space Technology, and one staff member, to attend the meetings of four technical panels in 1971 and to visit a number of countries in Asia and Africa to discuss requests for practical space applications.

46. In the view of the Advisory Committee, the level of resources available for staff travel on official business should make it possible for the Secretary-General to implement the provisions of the draft resolution of the First Committee without the need for additional appropriations. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee suggested that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution in question, no additional appropriation would be required for 1971.

* International co-operation in the peaceful uses of outer space: report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

⁴ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20.

⁵ *Ibid.*, annex II.

47. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should request the Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly, orally if necessary, that, should it adopt the First Committee's draft resolution, no additional appropriation would be required in 1971.

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT A/L.621 ON AGENDA ITEM 23* (A/C.5/1360)

48. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the Advisory Committee had considered the note (A/C.5/1360), in which the Secretary-General set out the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/L.621 whereby the General Assembly would approve the programme of work envisaged for 1971 by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The Secretary-General had submitted an estimate in a total amount of \$360,000, as against a provision of \$200,000 which the Fifth Committee had already approved on first reading under section 17, chapter VIII. The Secretary-General's estimate covered a twofold request. First, there was a total of \$285,000, which covered proposed visiting missions by groups of members of the Special Committee and a series of meetings of the Committee away from Headquarters, travel by the Chairman of the Committee to Geneva during the summer session of the Economic and Social Council, and the continuation of large-scale information activities. It was the Advisory Committee's understanding that the Special Committee's travel plans had not been finalized. Hence, there remained an element of uncertainty as to the exact amount of funds that might be required for that purpose. Secondly, the Secretary-General requested an amount of \$75,000 to cover the cost of temporary assistance for the Department of Trusteeship and Non-Self-Governing Territories: 2 Professional posts (1 P-5 and 1 P-4) and 1 General Service post (G-5), for a period of twelve months. In that connexion, the Advisory Committee noted that in his initial estimates for 1971 the Secretary-General made provision for 36 Professional posts—2 of them provisional—and 21 General Service posts for that Department. The Department was about to be surveyed by the Administrative Management Service and it might therefore be premature to strengthen it ahead of the survey. Moreover, the Advisory Committee had doubts about including the temporary assistance under section 17, instead of section 3, in view of the fact that the Special Committee had always been serviced by the Department of Trusteeship and Non-Self-Governing Territories.

* Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

49. The Advisory Committee had thus been faced with two questions: first, whether the Special Committee's programme of work would follow the outline used by the Secretary-General as a basis for submitting the cost estimates, and, secondly, whether the Administrative Management Service would find that the considerable strengthening proposed for the Department was warranted in terms of that Department's total workload. The Advisory Committee had concluded that in view of those uncertainties it would be preferable to deal with the Special Committee's requirements—should they exceed the \$200,000 already included in the budget estimates for 1971—under the terms of the General Assembly resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. The Advisory Committee recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly accordingly. It further recommended that the Secretary-General should obtain the advice of the Administrative Management Service before granting additional temporary assistance to the substantive Department concerned.

50. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should report directly to the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/L.621, any request in excess of the amount already approved under section 17, chapter VIII, of the budget for 1971 would be presented in accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1971.

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/8242 ON AGENDA ITEM 66 (A/C.5/1357)**

51. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that under the terms of the draft resolution on the question of Oman submitted by the Fourth Committee (A/8242, para. 10), the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to intensify the wide dissemination of information about conditions in that Territory. As the Secretary-General pointed out in his note (A/C.5/1357) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft, the matter was closely related to the programme of work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and the necessary funds could be provided from within the global budgetary provision to be made for the Special Committee's activities in 1971, on which the Advisory Committee had already reported (see paras. 48 and 49 above).

[For the decision of the Committee, see paragraph 54 below.]

** Question of Oman: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION III SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/8248 ON AGENDA ITEM 23* (A/C.5/1356)

52. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that under the terms of the draft resolution on the question of Spanish Sahara submitted by the Fourth Committee (A/8248, para. 19, draft resolution III), the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to appoint immediately a special mission and to expedite its dispatch to Spanish Sahara for the purpose of recommending practical steps for the full implementation of General Assembly resolutions dealing with the Territory.

53. In his note (A/C.5/1356) the Secretary-General estimated the cost of such a mission at \$11,000, consisting mainly of travel and subsistence costs for 3 members and 5 supporting staff. However, the Secretary-General considered that those costs could be accommodated within the estimates which he had submitted for the totality of the activities of the Special Committee in 1971.

54. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should request the Rapporteur to report directly to the General Assembly that the costs of implementing the draft resolutions of the Fourth Committee concerning Oman and Spanish Sahara would be met within the estimates submitted by the Secretary-General in connexion with the work programme for 1971 of the Special Committee, on which the Advisory Committee had already made its recommendations (see paras. 48 and 49 above).

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/8237 ON AGENDA ITEM 101 (A/C.5/1361)**

55. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that, under the terms of a draft resolution submitted by the Special Political Committee (A/8237,

* Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples: report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

** Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories.

para. 8), the Secretary-General would be requested to provide the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories with all the necessary facilities for the continued performance of its tasks. For the purpose of arriving at an estimate of expenditures for 1971, the Secretary-General had made several assumptions, on the basis of the programme of future work of the Special Committee as envisaged in its report (A/8089).⁶ Those assumptions were set out in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's note (A/C.5/1361), on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution. The Secretary-General had estimated the 1971 expenditures of the Special Committee at \$85,150, covering a field mission to Europe and the Middle East, meetings in Geneva after the field mission, conference servicing costs, consultant services and coverage of current news developments. The Secretary-General further estimated that, should the Special Committee undertake its mission later in 1971 than envisaged at present, there would be additional costs of \$8,600, making a total of \$93,750.

56. The Advisory Committee believed that, in the light of experience, the Secretary-General's estimate for the expenditures of the Special Committee could be decreased to \$70,000. It therefore recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution in question, an additional appropriation of \$70,000 would be required under section 17 of the budget for 1971.

57. Miss HERLITZ (Israel) said that her delegation strongly objected to the costs which would arise in implementing the provisions of the draft resolution, for the reasons it had stated in the Special Political Committee during the debate on the question (750th meeting).

58. Mr. ALWAN (Iraq) said that, unlike the preceding speaker, he welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution. He recalled the reasons—stated in the Special Political Committee (751st meeting)—why his delegation had voted in favour of it in the Special Political Committee.

59. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should request the Rapporteur to report directly to the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution of the Special Political Committee, an additional appropriation of \$70,000 would be required under a new chapter in section 17 of the budget for 1971.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.

⁶ *Ibid.*, Twenty-fifth Session, Annexes, agenda item 101.