United Nations

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION

Official Records



FIFTH COMMITTEE, 1411th

Tuesday, 8 December 1970, at 10.50 a.m.

NEW YORK

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

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Tardos (Hungary), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE SIXTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/8213 ON AGENDA ITEM 90* (A/C.5/1347)

- 1. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law submitted by the Sixth Committee (A/8213, para. 9), contained two paragraphs which had a bearing on the budget estimates for the financial year 1971. Under operative paragraph 1, the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General to carry out in 1971 certain activities specified in his report on the implementation of the Programme;1 those would include the financing of fifteen fellowships and the provision of United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries. The Secretary-General estimated the cost of the fellowships at \$40,000, the amount already included for the Programme under section 12, chapter V of the budget estimates for 1971 (A/8006). The Secretary-General indicated that the cost of providing United Nations legal publications to institutions in developing countries, which was estimated at \$1,000, could be financed from within the over-all appropriation under section 10 of the budget estimates. No additional appropriation for those purposes would therefore be required.
- 2. Under operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would be authorized to provide assistance in the form of a travel grant for one participant from each developing country invited to the regional symposium in Africa and to the regional training course in Latin America, both of which were to take place in 1971. On the assumption that the Governments of the host countries would provide the board and lodging of the participants and that the United Nations would pay only their air travel, the Secretary-General estimated the costs at \$23,600, for which he

requested an additional appropriation under section 12, chapter V.

- 3. The Advisory Committee wished to point out that those proposals represented something of a precedent, as the present case was the first in which the question of travel expenses of the type involved had arisen in connexion with the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law. On the assumption that voluntary contributions would be made available in 1971, as they had been in the past, to help in financing the Programme, the Advisory Committee believed that the financial implications of the draft resolution could be reduced from \$23,600 to \$20,000.
- 4. The Fifth Committee might therefore wish to inform the General Assembly that the adoption of the draft resolution of the Sixth Committee would require an additional appropriation of \$20,000 under section 12, chapter V of the budget estimates for the financial year 1971.
- 5. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted the statement made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee that an additional appropriation of \$20,000 would be required to meet the travel expenses of the participants from developing countries invited to the regional symposium to be held in Africa and the regional training course to be organized in Latin America. Inasmuch as that programme was organized by UNITAR, his delegation felt that the expenses incurred should be met by UNITAR, and it opposed their inclusion in the United Nations budget for 1971.
- 6. Mr. RHODES (United Kingdom) said that the question of the travel expenses of the various categories of persons who were employed by the United Nations or who took part in its activities was certainly one within the purview of the Fifth Committee. The Sixth Committee, on the other hand, had perhaps been guilty of some presumption in adopting for the first time a draft resolution involving expenses of that kind. He wondered whether the Sixth Committee had been aware of the precedent which it was establishing and whether it had realized that it was usurping the prerogatives of the Fifth Committee.
- 7. Mr. COIDAN (Director of the Budget Division) confirmed that the United Nations had never previously defrayed the travel expenses of persons other than Secretariat officials, members of the various committees, or consultants, unless the General Assembly had clearly indicated that it wished that to be done.

^{*} United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law: report of the Secretary-General.

¹ Document A/8130 and Corr.1 (mimeographed), dated 30 October 1970.

- 8. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should request the Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly, indicating that if it adopted the Sixth Committee's draft resolution, an additional appropriation of \$20,000 would be required under section 12, chapter V, of the budget estimates for 1971, and drawing its attention to the reservations and doubts expressed by the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee, and to the observations made by the Director of the Budget Division.
- 9. Mr. KEENLEYSIDE (Canada) said that his delegation shared the doubts expressed by the Soviet and United Kingdom delegations. The Rapporteur could perhaps mention in his report to the General Assembly that the procedure followed in the present case by the Sixth Committee was inappropriate and showed not again be used in future.
- 10. Mr. RAMBISSOON (Trinidad and Tobago) wondered whether it might not be presumptuous for the Fifth Committee to tell another Committee what it should or should not do. Perhaps the Sixth Committee should simply be informed of the implications of its decision.
- 11. Mr. MSELLE (United Republic of Tanzania) said that he was willing to accept the Chairman's suggestion that the Rapporteur should be requested to mention in the report to the General Assembly the reservations expressed by some delegations, but he could not accept the Canadian representative's proposal, which would imply that all members of the Fifth Committee shared those views and expressed the same reservations.
- 12. The CHAIRMAN said that unless the Canadian representative objected, the Fifth Committee could accordingly request the Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly indicating the financial implications of the Sixth Committee's draft resolution and summarizing the observations and reservations made by the Advisory Committee and by "some" delegations, together with the observations of the Director of the Budget Division. The report could also state, without expressly reflecting on the Sixth Committee, that one, two or several delegations had criticized the procedure followed by the Sixth Committee.
- 13. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) formally proposed that a sentence should be included in the report indicating that the Fifth Committee recommended that the General Assembly should not vote the additional appropriation of \$20,000 requested and believed that UNITAR should be responsible for the expenses in question.
- 14. Mr. KEENLEYSIDE (Canada) supported the Chairman's suggestion as reformulated; it was important to mention that some delegations felt the procedure followed by the Sixth Committee to be unusual and undesirable.
- 15. Mr. RAMBISSOON (Trinidad and Tobago) welcomed the Canadian delegation's proposal. He would vote against the Soviet delegation's proposal because

- he was not sure that the Fifth Committee was authorized to make such a decision.
- 16. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) pointed out to the Soviet representative that the General Assembly could refuse to include certain expenditures in the regular budget of the United Nations, but could not decide to charge them to some other budget.
- 17. The CHAIRMAN invited the Soviet representative to rephrase his proposal to indicate that the Fifth Committee recommended that the General Assembly should refuse to approve the reimbursement under the regular budget of the United Nations of the travel expenses incurred by participants invited to the regional symposium to be held in Africa and to the regional training course to be organized in Latin America.
- 18. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) agreed to the phrasing suggested by the Chairman.

The proposal of the Soviet representative was rejected by 25 votes to 9, with 28 abstentions.

19. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee approved the suggestion he had previously put forward, on the understanding that the Rapporteur would also mention the Soviet delegation's proposal in his report.

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 to 10 and 12, 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/L.1047, A/C.5/L.1055/Rev.1, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.40)

Review and reappraisal of United Nations information policies and activities (concluded) (A/8008/ Add.5, A/C.5/1320 and Corr.1)

20. Mr. VAN VLOTEN (Netherlands) said that the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics would have expressed fewer doubts with respect to the Centre for Economic and Social Information at the previous meeting if he had taken the trouble to reread General Assembly resolution 2567 (XXIV) on the mobilization of public opinion, in which the Assembly had endorsed the concepts on which the

work of the Centre was based. The General Assembly had also endorsed the activities being undertaken at that time in support of the aims of the Second United Nations Development Decade. In his statement the Soviet representative had also failed to take account of section E of the International Development Strategy, which had been adopted unanimously and solemnly proclaimed. In the Strategy, Governments had subscribed to the goals and objectives of the Decade and had resolved to take measures to translate them into reality. Those aims and measures were also contained in section E of the Strategy, which provided further justification for the work of the Centre for Economic and Social Information. In supporting the mobilization of public opinion for the Second United Nations Development Decade, the Netherlands Government had always respected the responsibilities of the Secretary-General with regard to the organization of activities which came within his purview. Any suggestion to the contrary was totally unfounded. His delegation had noted with interest and approval the paragraphs in the Secretary-General's report relating to the Centre for Economic and Social Information (A/C.5/1320 and Corr.1, paras. 242-261), and it was sure that the Secretary-General or his representative would provide further enlightenment on that question if necessary.

- 21. Mr. RHODES (United Kingdom) said that his delegation had studied the report of the Secretary-General with close attention. It attached great importance to the three fundamental principles governing the information activities of the United Nations as set out in General Assembly resolution 13 (I) and reaffirmed in General Assembly resolution 595 (VI), namely, the principle that the Office of Public Information must eschew all propaganda, its job, as indicated in paragraph 52 (a) of the Secretary-General's report, being "to tell the peoples of the world not what to think, but what to think about"; the principle that the Office should supplement, but not seek to replace, established information agencies; and the principle of unified control. His delegation believed that those fundamental principles had stood the test of time remarkably well and that they did not need to be revised, amended or enlarged. In that respect it was in agreement with the report's conclusions.
- 22. He understood the importance that the Soviet delegation attached to those basic principles and shared some of its misgivings with regard to the decision to separate the Centre for Economic and Social Information from the Office of Public Information. Without wishing to revert to that matter, his delegation would welcome the assurance that the Centre for Economic and Social Information would have to respect the same principles as the Office of Public Information and that it would be responsible to the Secretary-General and through him to the major organizations of the United Nations. His delegation had full confidence in the Centre, which would have important responsibilities with regard to the International Development Strategy for the Second Development Decade, and in its Director, Mr. W. Gibson Parker.

- Some recent publications of the Office of Public Information had come close to infringing the principle that it should not engage in propaganda. The Secretary-General had stated that the Office of Public Information should confine itself to impartial and factual reporting and that any crossing of the boundary which divided information proper from activities with a promotional or propagandistic trend would be self-defeating in the long run. His delegation was in full agreement with that judgement, and it was in that light that it had examined the Secretary-General's report. It was ready to support the Office of Public Information and the Centre for Economic and Social Information in the discharge of their responsibilities. If it had emphasized the importance of basic principles, it was not to restrict the activities of the Assistant Secretary-General and his staff but rather to protect their position as servants of the international community as a whole.
- 24. Mr. KEDADI (Tunisia) said that his delegation had already drawn the Committee's attention to paragraph 130 of document A/C.5/1320 and Corr.1 at the meeting when it asked the Secretary-General for Administration and Management for clarification on the future of the Frenchlanguage information service. It had expressed its gratitude to the representative of the Secretary-General for the assurances he had given on the subject and was confident that the Secretariat would continue to grant the French language proper treatment as a working language. His delegation wished to pay a tribute to the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information for his efforts in the very delicate sector for which he was responsible, the value of which was universally appreciated. It was convinced that the Secretariat would do its utmost to maintain the French-language information service on a permanent basis and associated itself with those delegations that had expressed the same view.
- 25. Mr. MEYER PICON (Mexico) said that his delegation supported the idea of deferring the examination of such a delicate and complex item to the twenty-sixth session. It hoped that the report to be submitted in 1971 would contain not only details of events that had occurred in the meantime but also the same information for the services in Spanish as had been given for the services in French, as well as a clear indication of the needs and probable cost not only of the Englishlanguage television programmes but also of those in French, Spanish, Arabic and other languages.
- 26. Mr. ALWAN (Iraq) supported the proposal to defer until the twenty-sixth session the remainder of the discussion on the report of the Secretary-General. The report was too important to be discussed hastily and deserved thorough examination in the interest of all Member States and the Office of Public Information itself. He requested the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information to state in how many languages television films intended for distribution to Member States were produced.
- 27. Mr. KEENLEYSIDE (Canada) said that there was no justification for the suggestion by the Soviet

Union representative that Canada had made funds available to the Office of Public Information to publish and circulate under United Nations auspices documents requested by Canada. The Office of Public Information had wished to publish two documents that were relevant to the Second United Nations Development Decade but had not had the necessary funds to do so. The Canadian Government had therefore made a voluntary contribution of \$60,000, to be used for purposes already agreed on by the United Nations.

- 28. Mr. TARDOS (Hungary) recalled that the report on the Office of Public Information should have been submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-third session. The reasons for the delay in preparing the report were known, but the fact was that the Committee was taking it up at a very late stage, particularly since the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/8008/Add.5) was dated 25 November 1970. His delegation did not think it was possible to give the proper attention to such an important report at the current session and it approved of the suggestion to defer examination of the Secretary-General's report until the twenty-sixth session. However, he wished to ask two specific questions.
- 29. The Target Audience Data Bank Service, referred to in paragraph 253 of the report, was undoubtedly a large-scale undertaking, the cost of which had not been indicated by the Advisory Committee. His delegation would like to have more details of the purpose of the proposed Service, its potential and its cost, and it believed that further study was indispensable to enable the Committee to make a decision with full knowledge of the facts.
- 30. As to television services, he would like to know, in connexion with the Satellite Control Centre, for which, according to annex II of the report, new equipment costing \$150,000 was to be purchased, whether a market survey of the transmissions by Intelsat (International Telecommunications Satellite Consortium) had been carried out. It was necessary to know about the Intelsat pricing policy, to know who would have to bear the costs of retransmission and, where such costs were borne by the recipient of the transmission, how much demand there would be for retransmissions of satellite television programmes. In that connexion, account should be taken of the various alternatives in the matter of television policy suggested in paragraph 161 of the report: the provision of services on a commercial basis, the provision of services free of charge and the compromise solution recommended by the Secretary-General-services paid for by users in the developed countries and provided free of charge to developing television organizations.
- 31. Mr. STEWARD (South Africa) said that, in view of the proposal to defer consideration of the Secretary-General's report until the twenty-sixth session, he would confine himself to making a brief statement. He recalled that General Assembly resolutions 13 (I) and 595 (VI) setting up the Office of Public Information provided, inter alia, that it should not engage in prop-

aganda but confine itself to positive information activities. As he had done before, for instance in the introduction² to his 1967 report on the work of the Organization, the Secretary-General had reaffirmed those principles in the report before the Committee. In the opinion of his delegation, however, there was a fundamental contradiction in paragraph 57 (v), which began by advocating objectivity and universality but went on to sanction an exception to that basic requirement in the case of certain activities. It was said that the Office of Public Information should not only consider itself free, but indeed obligated, to pursue a more active information programme more directly geared to supporting those activities. The more active programme referred to, which appeared to be beyond the constitutional competence of the Office of Public Information in the light of its guidelines, would include decolonization, disarmament, economic and social development and the elimination of apartheid and racial discrimination. From paragraph 50 it was evident that special attention was intended to be given to South Africa and southern Africa. His delegation failed to see how the Office of Public Information could be acting objectively when it was encouraged to produce material on a specific country, without any attempt being made to record that country's point of view. In paragraphs 52(b) and (c), an attempt had been made to justify that particular activity by distinguishing between the "active" and "activist" approach. While the activity of the Office of Public Information must rightly remain "essentially objective and informational", his delegation considered that a campaign directed against a particular country could not be anything but activist. Questions such as disarmament or the rights of women and children were susceptible of a more active information campaign without any lack of objectivity, because a particular country was not thereby attacked. But in the case of the information campaign which the United Nations had been conducting for many years against South Africa, and which the report sought to clothe with respectability, that was not so. How could it be maintained, for instance, that Objective: Justice was not a propaganda publication? That publication was crusading in style and completely one-sided. Against all the traditions of the Office of Public Information it purported to give an editorial opinion. Furthermore, it contained contributions by individuals who had no status in the Organization, who were purveyors of force and subversion, and whose only qualification was that they had agitated for a hearing by the United Nations, to further their own political aims directed, inter alia, against his country. In the view of his delegation, that situation was deplorable and unconstitutional; funds should not be allocated to finance that publication.

32. Mr. MAROOFI (Afghanistan) congratulated the Secretary-General on his report and agreed that the discussion should be deferred until the twenty-sixth session, in view of the little time available to the Committee. His delegation was particularly interested in the dissemination of information on United Nations

² See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Supplement No. 1 A, sect. XI.

activities in the local languages of countries which had no modern means of dissemination. That created certain problems, but his delegation was convinced that the Office of Public Information would be able to surmount them.

- 33. Mr. GUPTA (India) agreed that the Committee should have more time for a thorough study of the Secretary-General's report and was in favour of the discussion being deferred until the twenty-sixth session, at which his delegation would state its views in detail. He congratulated the Assistant Secretary-General and the staff of the Office of Public Information for the very important report they had prepared on the information services of an international organization.
- 34. Mr. FAROOQ (Pakistan) joined with the other speakers, particularly the representative of Tunisia, in congratulating the Assistant Secretary-General on the report submitted to the Committee. He, too, felt that it was essential, in view of the importance of the report, to defer detailed consideration of it until 1971. He considered, however, that on the threshold of the Second United Nations Development Decade, it was essential to co-ordinate the activities of the Centre for Economic and Social Information and the Office of Public Information.
- 35. Mr. HAMID (Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information), replying to the question put by the representative of Iraq, recalled that his statement at the previous meeting had contained details of television broadcasts in languages other than English, and particularly in Arabic.
- 36. In reply to the representative of Canada, who had requested that the Office of Public Information should restore the original parity between French and English, and establish the French-language services which it used to have, he said that the publication of documents in French had in fact been maintained at the same level for twenty-five years and that the French-language services had not been diminished by the disappearance of the French-language desk, which had performed services essentially for overseas information centres; those centres continued to receive. as in the past, weekly newsletters, features and translations of publications, either from other sections of the Office of Public Information, or from external sources on a contractual basis. In fact, the recent establishment of a daily news summary in French was an addition to the French-language services. He reaffirmed that, despite the reduction in staff, the Office of Public Information would attempt, in consultation with the other United Nations offices concerned, to maintain that daily press release service during the following year.
- 37. Mr. STARK (Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management), speaking on behalf of the Secretary-General, thanked the Canadian delegation for its voluntary contribution of \$60,000 which the Canadian Government had decided to make to the Centre for Economic and Social Information and which would enable the latter to expand its activities in con-

nexion with the Second United Nations Development Decade.

- 38. Mr. ALWAN (Iraq) thanked the Assistant Secretary-General for his reply. The fact that the majority of television films were produced in English and only a small number in French was incompatible with the terms of reference of the Office of Public Information. Any new plan of activity in that field should include the production of television films in languages other than English-particularly in French, Spanish and Arabic. He particularly wished to stress the importance of producing television films in Arabic, a language spoken by over 100 million people, who were especially interested in United Nations activities, particularly economic and social development in the Middle East. Fourteen Arab Member States had authorized him to make a formal request that the Office of Public Information should produce television films in Arabic.
- Mr. TARASOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said, with regard to the statements made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information and the representative of Canada concerning the remark he had made during the previous meeting, that there had been no misunderstanding. His delegation had no objection to additional voluntary contributions for the production of programmes approved by the Office of Public Information. He had merely wished to stress that the payment of such funds should not be accompanied by conditions concerning activities of that Office. The policy of the Office of Public Information and the Centre for Economic and Social Information with regard to information programmes should be determined, not by States which made contributions, but by the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information. Furthermore, there was a Consultative Panel on Public Information, of whose services the Secretary-General had not availed himself for four years and which was responsible for co-ordinating information policies.
- 40. Mr. WEI (China) said that the Assistant Secretary-General had not replied to his question of the previous day concerning the proportion of programmes and documents produced by the Office of Public Information in Chinese and other languages. He also wished to know whether the Office of Public Information had expanded or reduced its services provided for the Chinese people, and, if so, to what extent. If the Assistant Secretary-General could not reply orally, a written reply would be quite acceptable.
- 41. The CHAIRMAN noted that the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information had still to reply to the questions of several other representatives.
- 42. He proposed that the Committee should decide to continue its consideration of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/1320 and Corr.1) at the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

It was so decided.

Study of the nature of the increases in the level of expenditure in the United Nations regular budget (continued)* (A/C.5/1307, A/C.5/L.1055/Rev.1)

- 43. Mr. GUPTA (India) said that in the revised text the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.1055/Rev.1 had taken account of the comments of various delegations. The new operative paragraph 3, which combined sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of former paragraph 2, took into consideration the objections of certain delegations to sub-paragraph (b). Former paragraph 6, the importance of which has been stressed by certain delegations, was now paragraph 5. Lastly, in the new paragraph 6 the sponsors had taken into consideration the reservations expressed by certain Member States regarding former paragraph 4.
- 44. He announced that Kenya had asked to be included among the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.1055/Rev.1.

[Before continuing consideration of agenda item 73, the Committee considered agenda item 82 (see paras. 48-50 below).]

Work of the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations (continued)** (A/8209, A/8210, A/C.5/1319, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.40)

45. Mr. ALWAN (Iraq) noted that United Nations membership had grown from 51 at the time of its founding to 127 in 1970. Almost all non-founding Member States were from Asia and Africa, and the Afro-Asian Group, which had consisted of fewer than 12 Member States in 1945, now comprised over 70. The increase in membership had transformed the United Nations from an overwhelmingly white community, composed mainly of European and American States into an almost universal organization in which the non-white States, with almost 80 per cent of the total population of Member States, predominated. That being so, it was very difficult for the majority of non-white diplomatic missions accredited to the United Nations to function properly in a host country which practised racial discrimination either officially or socially. Apart from the racial discrimination against the non-white diplomatic community, a systematic campaign of terror was being waged against certain permanent missions and their personnel and against certain members of the Secretariat, including insults, anonymous letters, threats, attacks, invasion and forcible occupation of diplomatic missions, and bombing incidents. He cited the invasion and occupation on 3 December 1969 of the Syrian mission and the bombing incidents at the Ivory Coast mission, the premises of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Soviet Tourist Agency. Those acts of terrorism were perpetrated by a militant Jewish organization, the Jewish Defense League, which had been founded a few years previously with headquarters in New York and was directed by Rabbi Meir Kahane. who extolled violence. The United States authorities had shown a lack of concern about the activities of the League and about the threats to the security of permanent missions and their staff. The United States representative in the Fifth Committee had merely given verbal assurances but had said nothing about practical measures by his Government to dispel the feeling of insecurity prevalent among diplomats. No legal action had been taken against the Jewish Defense League or against the hooligans who had invaded permanent missions contrary to international law and diplomatic practice. On the contrary, the New York authorities had connived at the activities of the terrorist organizations and helped them for reasons connected with local politics. Some high-ranking United States officials, including the Mayor of New York, participated in meetings and demonstrations directed against certain Member States, in violation of the Headquarters Agreement. The United States Federal Government was doing nothing to correct that anomaly and thus gave the impression that it was unable to outlaw terrorist organizations and to protect diplomats residing in New York. His delegation felt that the terrorism directed against permanent missions in New York must be brought to an end, and it would take the initiative in requesting the inclusion of a separate item on that matter in the agenda of the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly. Notwithstanding his admiration for the American people, he regretted to say that the United States did not deserve the honour of being host country to the United Nations. It was high time that United Nations Headquarters was transferred to a country which did not practise racial discrimination but fought it, which was not a member of any military alliance and which was free from racial and religious pressure groups, a country which had the highest tradition of moral values, namely Sweden.

- 46. It was those considerations that had led his delegation to submit the draft resolution contained in document A/C.5/XXV/CRP.40,³ which reflected the views expressed by many delegations.
- 47. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) said that he regretted the political nature of the attacks made by the Iraqi representative on the Government of the United States and the authorities of the City of New York and categorically rejected them, reserving the right to reply to them at a later stage.

AGENDA ITEM 82

Personnel questions (continued):

- (a) Composition of the Secretariat: report of the Secretary-General (continued) (A/8156, A/C.5/L.1046 and Add.1, A/C.5/XXV/CRP.37/Rev.2)
- 48. Mr. FAROOQ (Pakistan) said that the sponsors of the draft resolution before the Committee in the new revised text (A/C.5/XXV/CRP.37/Rev.2) had endeavoured to take into account the views expressed by various delegations during the informal consultations of the previous day. In draft resolution A, changes had been made in the second and third preambular

^{*} Resumed from the 1406th meeting.

^{**} Resumed from the 1409th meeting.

³ For the text of the draft resolution as subsequently amended, see A/8099, para. 170, draft resolution X.

- paragraphs, as well as in operative paragraphs 2 (a), (b), (c) and (e). He recalled that operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution C had been amended so as not to give the impression that the principle of geographical distribution should apply to the secretariats of UNDP and UNICEF in the same way as to the United Nations Secretariat.
- 49. Mr. GUPTA (India) proposed that the following should be added at the end of the fourth preambular paragraph of draft resolution A: "bearing in mind the changes in nationality pattern as a result of retirement of permanent staff". He also proposed that the words
- "in all fields" should be inserted in operative paragraph 1 after the words "particularly at senior levels". If the sponsors of the draft resolution did not agree to those proposals, he would be obliged to submit them as formal amendments.
- 50. Mr. FAROOQ (Pakistan) said that the sponsors of the draft resolution would consider the suggestions of the Indian representative at a meeting to be held that afternoon.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.