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### FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER GROUP IN CENTRAL AMERICA

#### Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Etien NINOV (Bulgaria)

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 61st plenary meeting, on 20 November 1989, the General Assembly decided to include in the agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 50th to 53rd meetings, held between 30 November and 5 December 1989. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (A/44/246/Add.1) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/44/246/Add.2).

#### II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.5/44/L.9 AND Rev.1

3. At the 52nd meeting, on 4 December 1989, the representative of Spain introduced a draft resolution (A/C.5/44/L.9), sponsored by Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Nicaragua, Spain and Venezuela. The draft resolution read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing

of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

"Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 644 (1989) of 7 November 1989, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Group in Central America for a period of six months,

"Recognizing that the costs of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

"Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Observer Group in Central America with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolution of the Security Council,

"Urging all Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Observer Group in Central America in full and on time,

"Taking into account the nature and the mandate of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America,

"Recognizing that in order to meet the expenditures caused by the United Nations Observer Group in Central America, a different procedure from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations is required,

"Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

"Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America,

"Mindful of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee on the requests of some Member States to change their placement in the existing groups 'b', 'c' and 'd' of Member States for the apportionment of the costs of peace-keeping operations financed through assessed contributions,

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1/ A/44/246/Add.1.

2/ A/44/246/Add.2.

"1. Concurs with the observations, recommendations and conclusions contained in the Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/

"2. Decides to appropriate an amount of 40,800,000 United States dollars, inclusive of the amount of 3,450,000 dollars authorized with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 42/227 of 21 December 1987, for the operation of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America from 7 November 1989 to 6 May 1990, inclusive, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Observer Group;

"3. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 40,800,000 dollars for the above-mentioned period among the States Members of the United Nations;

"4. Decides also that the apportionment of this amount will be effected in accordance with the decision to be taken by the General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, on the composition of existing groups of Member States, as set out by Assembly resolution 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973, for the apportionment of the costs of peace-keeping operations financed through assessed contributions;

"5. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among the Member States, as provided for in paragraph 4 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 600,000 dollars approved for the above-mentioned period;

"6. Invites voluntary contributions to the United Nations Observer Group in Central America both in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure to be established by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Observer Group in Central America is administered with the maximum of efficiency and economy, bearing in mind the relevant observations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/

"8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled 'Financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America'."

4. At its 53rd meeting, on 5 December 1989, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.5/44/L.9/Rev.1), sponsored by Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Japan, Nicaragua, Spain and Venezuela. At that meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/44/L.9/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 6).

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5. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (see A/C.5/44/SR.50-53).

### III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### Financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America 3/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 4/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 644 (1989) of 7 November 1989, by which the Council established the United Nations Observer Group in Central America for a period of six months,

Recognizing that the costs of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Observer Group in Central America with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolution of the Security Council,

Urging all Member States to make every effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the United Nations Observer Group in Central America in full and on time,

Recognizing that in order to meet the expenditures caused by the United Nations Observer Group in Central America, a different procedure from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations is required,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

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3/ A/44/246/Add.1.

4/ A/44/246/Add.2.

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America,

Mindful of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee 5/ on the requests of some Member States to change their placement in the existing groups "b", "c" and "d" of Member States, on the basis of the criteria set out in Assembly resolution 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973,

1. Concurs with the observations, recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 4/

2. Decides to appropriate an amount of 40,800,000 United States dollars, inclusive of the amount of 3,450,000 dollars authorized with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, under the terms of General Assembly resolution 42/227 of 21 December 1987, for the operation of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America from 7 November 1989 to 6 May 1990, inclusive, and requests the Secretary-General to establish a special account for the Observer Group;

3. Decides also, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 40,800,000 dollars for the above-mentioned period among the States Members of the United Nations, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of Assembly resolution 43/232 of 3 March 1989, to be adjusted by the decision to be taken by the General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, on the composition of the four groups "a", "b", "c" and "d" of Member States and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1989, 1990 and 1991; 6/

4. Decides further that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among the Member States, as provided for in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 600,000 dollars approved for the above-mentioned period;

5. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Observer Group in Central America at a rate not to exceed 4,524,100 dollars gross (4,389,500 dollars net) per month, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for the twelve-month period beginning 7 May 1990, should the Security Council decide to renew the mandate of the Observer Group beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 644 (1989), the said amount to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the present resolution;

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5/ See A/C.5/44/SR.43 and 45-49.

6/ Resolution 43/223.

6. Invites voluntary contributions to the United Nations Observer Group in Central America both in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure to be established by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Observer Group in Central America is administered with the maximum of efficiency and economy, bearing in mind the relevant observations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America" and in this connection requests the Secretary-General to submit appropriate documentation.

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