

United Nations
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

Official Records



FIFTH COMMITTEE, 1229th
MEETING

Monday, 18 December 1967,
at 4.10 p.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

<i>Tribute to the memory of Mr. Harold Holt, Prime Minister of Australia.....</i>	Page 349
<i>Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Fourth Committee in document A/7010 on agenda items 65, 67 and 68.....</i>	349
<i>Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution II submitted by the Fourth Committee in document A/7013 on agenda item 23.....</i>	350
<i>Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution III submitted by the Fourth Committee in document A/7013 on agenda item 23.....</i>	350
<i>Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Fourth Committee in document A/7011 on agenda item 69.....</i>	350
<i>Financial implications of draft resolution C submitted by the Special Political Committee in document A/7004 on agenda item 34.....</i>	350
<i>Agenda item 74:</i>	
<i>Budget estimates for the financial year 1968 (continued)</i>	
<i>Draft resolution on the United Nations regular budget (continued).....</i>	351

Chairman: Mr. Harry MORRIS (Liberia).

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF MR. HAROLD HOLT, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA (continued)

1. Mr. BROOMFIELD (United States of America) paid a tribute to the memory of the Right Honourable Harold Holt, Prime Minister of Australia.
2. Mr. KELSO (Australia) thanked the United States representative.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7010 ON AGENDA ITEMS 65*, 67** AND 68*** (A/C.5/1166)

3. The CHAIRMAN said that, if the General Assembly adopted the draft resolution submitted by the Fourth

*Special educational and training programmes for South West Africa: report of the Secretary-General.

**Special training programme for Territories under Portuguese administration; report of the Secretary-General.

***Question of the consolidation and integration of the special educational and training programmes for South West Africa, the special training programme for Territories under Portuguese administration and the educational and training programme for South Africans: report of the Secretary-General.

Committee in its report (A/7010, para. 8) concerning the consolidation and integration of the educational and training programmes for South West Africa, the special training programme for Territories under Portuguese administration and the educational and training programme for South Africans, it would be necessary to reinstate under section 12 (Special expenses) the amount of \$100,000, which had been the provision for 1967 and for which only a pro memoria entry had been made in the budget estimates for the financial year 1968 (A/6705 and Corr.1). The Secretary-General's statement of the administrative and financial implications appeared in document A/C.5/1166.

4. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee called for the integration of the training and education programmes in question, the integrated programme to be financed from a trust fund made up of voluntary contributions. So far as 1968 was concerned, however, the draft resolution stated that as a transitional measure provision should be made under section 12 of the regular budget for 1968 to ensure the continuity of the programme, pending the receipt of adequate voluntary contributions. The Advisory Committee, which had summed up the earlier budgetary position in paragraph 312 of its main report (A/6707 and Corr.1-3), now concurred in the suggestion of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1166, para. 5) that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee, the sum of \$100,000 should be appropriated under section 12 of the budget for 1968.

5. Looking to the future, the Advisory Committee noted that the target level for the trust fund would be set at \$3 million for the three-year period from 1968 to 1970. It hoped that the target would be reached and that the need for a contribution from the United Nations regular budget would thus disappear.

6. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) reserved his delegation's position on the matter dealt with in document A/C.5/1166.

7. Mr. TOTHILL (South Africa) reserved his delegation's position on the inclusion of an appropriation of the present nature in the regular budget.

8. The CHAIRMAN proposed to the Committee that it decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it decide to adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Fourth Committee, it would be necessary to provide an amount of \$100,000 under section 12 of the budget estimates for the financial year 1968. He also proposed that the Rapporteur should report directly to the General Assembly on the question.

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION II SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7013 ON AGENDA ITEM 23* (A/C.5/1163)

9. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1163) concerning the administrative and financial implications of a draft resolution submitted by the Fourth Committee (A/7013, para. 39, draft resolution II). The Secretary-General estimated that the requirements would be \$9,500, which however would entail no additional appropriation.

10. He proposed that the Committee decide to inform the General Assembly that the draft resolution would involve no additional expenditure, as provision had already been approved in connexion with draft resolution A/L.541/Rev.1 already adopted by the Assembly (resolution 2326 (XXII)). He further proposed that the Rapporteur should report directly to the Assembly on the question.

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION III SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7013 ON AGENDA ITEM 23* (A/C.5/1164)

11. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1164) concerning the administrative and financial implications of a draft resolution submitted by the Fourth Committee (A/7013, para. 39, draft resolution III). He proposed that the Committee decide to inform the General Assembly that at the present stage the financial implications of the draft resolution in question could not be determined and that, when the necessary information became available, the Secretary-General would seek the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to meet the expenses involved under the arrangements to be approved by the Assembly concerning unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1968. He further proposed that the Rapporteur should report directly to the Assembly on the question.

It was so decided.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7011 ON AGENDA ITEM 69 (A/C.5/1165)**

12. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1165) on the administrative and financial implications of a draft resolution submitted by the Fourth Committee in its report (A/7011, para. 8). The Secretary-General estimated that the proposed visiting mission to Fiji would require an additional appropriation of \$21,500 under section 17 [formerly 16] (Special missions) of the budget estimates for 1968.

*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.

**Question of Fiji; 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.

13. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that, in reviewing the estimates submitted by the Secretary-General in his note, the Advisory Committee had noted that the General Assembly, at its twenty-first session, had endorsed a decision 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 to send a visiting mission to Fiji during 1967 but that it had not been possible for that mission to be undertaken. The Advisory Committee had also borne in mind that when it had considered the financial implications of the tentative programme of work envisaged by the Special Committee for 1968, which had included a visit to the Pacific Islands, it had made a recommendation, which the Fifth Committee had approved at its 1227th meeting, for an additional appropriation of \$150,000 for the Special Committee, to be included under section 17 [formerly 16] of the budget estimates for 1968. The Advisory Committee had also suggested that, on the basis of a more precise schedule of work and a clearer indication of the meetings to be held away from Headquarters, any such actual requirements of the Special Committee, to the extent that they exceeded \$150,000 in 1968, should be met with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee, under the terms of the General Assembly resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1968.

14. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommended that the estimated cost—amounting to \$21,500—of the proposed visit to Fiji should be met initially within the \$150,000 already approved for the Special Committee for 1968 and that any actual requirements over and above the \$150,000 should be considered subsequently under the terms of the resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1968.

15. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee decide to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution recommended in document A/7011, an additional expenditure of \$21,500 could be expected, and, in accordance with the Advisory Committee's recommendation, such requirements would be met initially within the amount of \$150,000 already approved under section 17 [formerly 16] for the activities proposed in 1968 by the Special Committee. He further proposed that the Rapporteur should report directly to the Assembly on the question.

It was so decided.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION C SUBMITTED BY THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7004 ON AGENDA ITEM 34* (A/C.5/1162)**

16. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the Secretary-General's note (A/C.5/1162) containing a statement on the financial implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Special Political Committee in its report (A/7004, para. 15, draft resolution C) and pointed out that the Secretary-

***Report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

General had requested an additional appropriation of \$68,000 for 1968 for that purpose.

17. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) observed that the draft resolution of the Special Political Committee called for the appointment of a custodian to protect and administer Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel and to receive the income derived therefrom on behalf of the rightful owners. The Secretary-General estimated that an additional appropriation in the amount of \$68,800 would be required under section 17 [formerly 16] (Special missions) of the budget for the financial year 1968 for that purpose. The Advisory Committee would agree that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, an amount of \$68,800 be appropriated under section 17 of the budget for 1968.

18. Mr. CALEFF (Israel) said that the draft resolution dealt with matters which went beyond the competence and authority of the United Nations. The text was in violation of the United Nations Charter and consequently illegal. He would oppose any appropriation intended for the implementation of the draft resolution.

19. Mr. YUNUS (Pakistan) said that the matter did come within the competence of the United Nations. Repatriation was an international pledge given by the Organization to Palestine refugees as a consequence of the creation of Israel. So long as that pledge was not honoured, the management of refugee property must remain a matter of direct United Nations responsibility. It was on that basis that the Special Political Committee had adopted the draft resolution in question.

20. Mr. SAMUELS (Guyana) reserved his delegation's position on the matter under consideration.

21. The CHAIRMAN proposed to the Committee that it decide to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Special Political Committee, an additional amount of \$68,000 would be required under section 17 [formerly 16] of the budget for 1968. He also proposed that the Rapporteur should report directly to the Assembly on the question.

22. Mr. CALEFF (Israel) said that, if the Chairman's proposal was accepted, he would like the Committee's report to mention his delegation's objection to the appropriation.

It was so decided.

The meeting was suspended at 4.40 p.m. and resumed at 5.10 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 74

Budget estimates for the financial year 1968 (continued) (A/6705 and Corr.1, A/6707 and Corr.1-3, A/6854, A/6861, A/6878, A/6922, A/6948, A/6953, A/6974, A/6978, A/6983, A/C.5/1113 and Corr.1 and 2, A/C.5/1114 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1115 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1118, A/C.5/1123 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1124, A/C.5/1126-1129, A/C.5/1132, A/C.5/1135, A/C.5/1136 and Add.1, A/C.5/1137, A/C.5/1138, A/C.5/1142, A/C.5/1143, A/C.5/1145-1147, A/C.5/1149, A/C.5/1153, A/C.5/1154, A/C.5/1155 and Corr.1, A/C.5/1157, A/C.5/L.901, A/C.5/L.908

and Corr.1, A/C.5/L.917/Rev.1, A/C.5/L.922, A/C.5/L.927, A/C.5/L.932, A/C.5/L.935, A/C.5/L.938 and Corr.1, A/C.5/L.939, A/C.5/L.940)

Draft resolution on the United Nations regular budget (continued) (A/C.5/L.917/Rev.1, A/C.5/L.940)

23. Mr. ESFANDIARY (Iran) said that the Afro-Asian group of countries had been discussing the four-Power draft resolution (A/C.5/L.917/Rev.1) and the Tanzanian amendments (A/C.5/L.940). Representatives of the group would like to consult with the sponsors of the draft resolution, in a last effort to find a generally acceptable text.

24. Mr. VAN GREVENYNGHE (France) pointed out that the draft resolution had been the subject of exhaustive discussions over the past weeks and that an agreement seemed to have been reached. It would be difficult to reopen the discussion at so late a stage.

25. Mr. KULEBYAKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought there had been sufficient time for discussions on the text, which should be put to a vote at once.

26. Mr. ZIEHL (United States of America) said that, although his delegation very much appreciated the efforts being made to find a way out of the impasse, it did not believe that the resumption of negotiations would provide a solution. Lengthy negotiations had already been held and changes had been made in the text of the draft resolution to meet the views of the developing countries.

27. Mr. FENSOME (United Kingdom) associated his delegation with the views expressed by the representatives of France, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America. The sponsors had submitted their revised draft in the belief that common ground had been found as a result of the negotiations.

28. Mr. ESFANDIARY (Iran) agreed that considerable time and effort had gone into the negotiations and that the sponsors had made concessions. Since then, however, the Tanzanian amendments had been submitted. He appealed to the four sponsors of the draft to join the Afro-Asian group of countries in a last effort to evolve a text which would command a wide measure of support in the Committee. It would be regrettable if a text were adopted which had the support of only a small majority of the members.

29. Mr. LOQUMAN (Mauritania) and Mr. KOUYATE (Guinea) associated themselves with the appeal made by the Iranian representative.

30. Mr. YUNUS (Pakistan) stressed that every possible effort should be made to avoid a division in the Committee and to work out a generally acceptable formula.

31. Mr. BYKOV (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic) supported the views expressed by the four sponsors of the draft resolution. The time had come to take a decision.

32. Mr. TARDOS (Hungary) was also in favour of continuing the present discussion and completing it. He thought that little could be achieved by informal negotiations at that stage, as even if the sponsors of

the draft resolution and the representatives of the main groups of countries reached an agreement, many individual delegations might still have reservations regarding the amendments agreed upon. His own delegation had not yet expressed its views on the amendments proposed by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania and would have comments to make about a number of points, especially the proposed new preambular paragraphs. It would be regrettable if the measures envisaged in the draft resolution had to be postponed for another year because the Committee had been unable to agree on the wording.

33. Mr. TILAKARATNA (Ceylon) said that the difficulty was not only due to the Tanzanian amendments. Some countries now had doubts about certain points which they would like to have clarified. He agreed that the Committee should not be divided on a matter of such fundamental importance to the developing countries. It required the fullest consultations and he appealed to the sponsors to provide an opportunity for further clarification of certain points and not to insist on a speedy conclusion.

34. Mr. GONSALVES (India) explained that the Afro-Asian group of countries had decided on a course of action which the sponsors of the draft resolution were unable to accept. Those countries should therefore be given an opportunity to meet and discuss their position in the light of the sponsors' decision not to renegotiate. He reserved the right to speak on the substance of the draft resolution after such a discussion had taken place.

35. Mr. CISS (Senegal), Mr. GINDEEL (Sudan) and Mr. SANU (Nigeria) also reserved the right to speak on the substance of the draft resolution and on the amendments at a later stage, if they considered it necessary.

36. Mr. VAN GREVENYNGHE (France) pointed out that the proposals expressed in the draft resolution had been before the Committee for several weeks and that there had been many exchanges of views between the sponsors and other delegations which had resulted in the revised text now under consideration. That text seemed to be a most satisfactory compromise between the two approaches and had proved acceptable to both sides. The negotiations had revealed that all members wished the Organization's activities, especially in the development field, to be conducted in a rational, planned and co-ordinated manner, with efficient use of the resources at its disposal. The sponsors had extensively modified their original draft to take into account the views expressed at the numerous consultations. Agreement had undoubtedly been reached on the substance, and the wording of the revised draft seemed acceptable to all delegations.

37. He emphasized that it had never been the intention of the sponsors to impose arbitrary limits on the Organization's resources, but only to introduce order into its programmes in the interests of all concerned, especially the developing countries. General recognition of that need had been demonstrated by the unanimous adoption, at the twenty-first session, of the second report of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies ^{1/} and would, he was sure, be

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343.

reaffirmed by the virtually unanimous adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/L.917/Rev.1.

38. Although they had been submitted at such a late stage, the amendments of the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania had been carefully considered by the sponsors of the draft resolution, as had all other suggestions and comments made during the past two months. The sponsors had nevertheless found those amendments entirely unacceptable, since they radically altered the substance of the draft resolution and compromised the consensus which had been reached after prolonged and difficult negotiations. He was sure that the members of the Committee would not wish to destroy the results of so much effort and goodwill at the last minute. He therefore appealed to the Committee not to accept the amendments proposed in document A/C.5/L.940, but to adopt draft resolution A/C.5/L.917/Rev.1.

39. Mr. KULEBYAKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) also referred to the patient efforts and numerous consultations which had led up to the presentation of draft resolution A/C.5/L.917/Rev.1, in which the sponsors had incorporated very substantial changes to accommodate the views of other members of the Committee. He was therefore surprised to hear some delegations imply that the draft had been prepared by the four Powers alone. The USSR regretted that the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania had not attended any of the consultations between the sponsors and the main groups of countries represented in the Committee. Since the draft had been first submitted, the United Republic of Tanzania had had two months in which to decide whether or not to participate in the consultations, and he was therefore surprised at its decision to submit amendments at the last minute. The Soviet Union delegation had carefully considered those amendments, but found them unacceptable. Indeed, they seemed to reflect a disregard for the Committee's patient efforts to produce a useful and generally acceptable document. Its adoption would help to ensure that the Organization's activities were well planned and effectively conducted. It was essential to preclude the possibility of those activities degenerating into chaos, being at the mercy of emotional impulses or the disrupting influence of some irresponsible Member State. It would be a matter for deep regret if the necessary action was postponed further. He therefore appealed to the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to withdraw his amendments, and to the Afro-Asian countries not to insist on reopening the negotiations. He did not think that suspension of the discussion for half an hour could help to make a document which was the result of two months of patient negotiations and consultations more generally acceptable. He was in favour of continuing and concluding the discussion.

40. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the Committee continue its consideration of that item at the following meeting, at 8.30 p.m.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 6.20 p.m.