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Chairman: Mr. David SILVEIRA DA MOTA
(Brazil).

AGENDA ITEM 83

Personnel questions (*continued*):

**(a) Composition of the Secretariat: report of the
Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/7745, A/C.5/L.992
and Add.1)**

1. Mr. HAMENOO (Ghana) observed that the fact that salaries and wages constituted the largest single item of expenditure in the United Nations budget was a compelling reason for ensuring the most efficient use of the available resources. By its resolution 2480 A (XXIII) the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to achieve a better geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat "at all levels". It was apparent from the report of the Secretary-General (A/7745) that there was still an imbalance in geographical representation, but his delegation commended the Secretary-General for the efforts he had made and was aware that he was under great pressure from certain Powers which sometimes left him little room for manoeuvre.

2. The Secretary-General had been called upon to avoid recruiting from countries which had reached the upper limit of their desirable range, but in paragraph 15 of his report it was stated that, if the upper limit of the desirable range had been applied rigidly, many of the posts now filled would have remained vacant. His delegation wondered whether that consideration, coupled with the provision for what were nebulously described as "exceptional circumstances", had not come to represent the rule rather than the exception in the recruitment of Secretariat staff.

3. His delegation was not certain what was meant by the reference in paragraph 7 of the report to "contribution to

the budget of the United Nations" as one of the three variables which determined desirable range. Moreover, it had difficulty in accepting the contention in paragraph 17 that differences in the proportion of fixed-term staff between the various geographical regions were less important than they seemed. It was apparent from table D that the proportion of fixed-term appointments to career appointments was much higher for Africa than for almost any other region. Tables A and B showed that Africa, with 42 countries, provided far fewer Secretariat staff than Europe, with 27 countries, or even than Western Europe alone, with 17 countries. He also noted from table C that North America and the Caribbean appeared to be under-represented, since the mid-point of the desirable range of that region was 25.9, while its actual staff position was 21.3. The question was, however, which countries within that region were inadequately represented; paragraph 18 merely avoided the issue. His delegation was not convinced that strenuous efforts to recruit on a broad basis were really being made. Nor was it impressed by the increases in the numbers of senior posts allotted to certain regions, as shown in table G.

4. There was a danger that staff not subject to geographical distribution would become too numerous and, through promotion, too prominent in the Secretariat, so that others who were subject to geographical distribution could not attain senior positions until the former retired. His delegation also wished to warn against the growing tendency to employ retired staff members as advisers and consultants.

5. The report was conspicuously silent on the subject of General Service staff, who were important not only because they could be promoted to Professional posts, but for the simple reason that they did the bulk of the work in the Secretariat. Was the omission perhaps a tacit confession that equitable geographical representation had been ignored in that area?

6. His delegation approved the idea of equitable linguistic and cultural representation, but could not agree that knowledge of a second working language should be a prerequisite for advancement in the Secretariat. That requirement was tantamount to discrimination against those whose mother tongue was not a working language, and his delegation felt that for most staff knowledge of languages was less important than administrative skills and should be rewarded, if at all, by allowances and bonuses while merit should be the main criterion for promotion.

7. His delegation appreciated what little progress had been made during the past year, but believed that there was still room for improvement, and urged the Secretary-General to do his utmost in the coming year to ensure a genuinely equitable geographical distribution of posts at all levels.

8. Mr. THIRY (Belgium) said he wished to associate his delegation with those which had thanked the Secretary-General for his efforts to implement General Assembly resolution 2480 (XXIII) and the Director of Personnel for the explanations he had given at the previous meeting. It was apparent from the tables in the annex to the Secretary-General's report that the number of high-level posts allocated to each country was moving closer to the "desirable number", but the movement was very slow; at the same time certain anomalies had been made more conspicuous by new appointments of candidates from seriously over-represented countries. As some of the most striking examples—cases in which the number of posts had already exceeded twice the maximum desirable number before the 1969 appointments were made—he cited Nigeria, Pakistan, Syria, Lebanon, Indonesia and Ethiopia. He also pointed out that the trend in such cases was to the advantage of the linguistic group which was already over-represented in the Secretariat. He stressed that he in no way wished to give offence to the countries he had mentioned, but simply to draw attention to imperfections in the application of the principle, which, moreover, were inevitable at the current stage.

9. The Secretary-General in his report and the Director of Personnel at the preceding meeting had both referred to the difficulties involved in remedying a situation which had come to be profoundly at variance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution laid down in the Charter. The Secretary-General listed the cases, which he termed exceptional but which were in fact quite numerous, in which he had been unable or had not felt obliged to adhere to the rule prohibiting the appointment of candidates from over-represented countries. Particular attention should be given to paragraph 8, sub-paragraph (c), which referred to the case in which the candidate, although a national of an over-represented country, came from a region which was itself substantially under-represented, the term "region" for that purpose designating a geographical or linguistic grouping. His delegation was aware that the concept of representation by region had been recognized in General Assembly resolution 2480 A (XXIII), but felt that it must be used with the greatest caution, because it was bound to have the effect of delaying the achievement of a linguistic balance. The country, not the region, was the basic unit for working out that balance. Western Europe, for example, was divided into several linguistic blocs, including those which were under-represented in the Secretariat. The countries themselves were not always linguistically homogeneous—Belgium was a case in point—and the regions dealt with in the report were too large to be linguistically homogeneous even in a relative sense. Attempts to establish a balance between vast regions which could not be linguistic entities therefore did not improve the linguistic balance but simply made current efforts to restore equitable distribution vague and ineffectual. It should also be pointed out that to depart from the normal criteria, as had already been done, would have the effect of making certain countries representatives of their region in the Secretariat staff. A category of countries would thus be created which, contrary to the spirit of the Organization, would be entitled to a larger number of Professional posts than had been allotted to them under the criteria established by the General Assembly. He suggested that in order to restore the balance, there should be what might be called

a "catch-up" period, during which, however difficult it might prove, the rule against recruitment from over-represented countries should be strictly applied.

10. His delegation considered that the linguistic imbalance in the Secretariat largely reflected a *de facto* situation: some senior Secretariat officials knew only one working language, and consequently their assistants had to use that language and no other in their work. His delegation felt that senior officials who did not possess even a passive knowledge of at least one other working language, which was essential in the United Nations, should always have someone working closely with them who did possess that knowledge.

11. In conclusion, he said that his statement was not motivated by the interests of his own country, which was in fact slightly over-represented in the Secretariat. The reform he was suggesting would be in accordance with the spirit of universality implicit in the Charter and would be in the interests of many young French-speaking African States which were at a special disadvantage in the current situation.

12. Mr. GHERAB (Director of Personnel) recalled that at the previous meeting the representative of Pakistan had asked him to explain the role of the population factor in calculating the degree of over-representation. The existing system of limits for each country and each region had been devised in accordance with the principles laid down in General Assembly resolution 1852 (XVII), of 19 December 1962. The formula was based on a rounded number—which was only roughly equal to the actual number—of posts subject to geographical distribution. The membership factor was expressed by a maximum and a minimum rather than by a single number, which introduced greater flexibility but only served as an indication as to how staff should be distributed by nationality. The Office of Personnel accordingly regarded any country as over-represented if its nationals occupied more than the maximum number of posts provided for it. The population factor represented the equivalent in posts of the allowance on assessments granted to Member States with low *per capita* income. That factor was established for each region, thus allowing further flexibility in recruitment. In other words, in order to improve the interregional balance, it was justifiable to recruit nationals of countries which had already exceeded their maximum quota.

AGENDA ITEM 74

Budget estimates for the financial year 1970 (continued)
 (A/7606, A/7608, A/7710, A/7726, A/7749, A/7767,
 A/7769, A/7770, A/7776, A/C.5/1230, A/C.5/1231 and
 Corr.1 and 2, A/C.5/1233, A/C.5/1234, A/C.5/1245,
 A/C.5/1248, A/C.5/1249, A/C.5/1253,
 A/C.5/1254/Rev.1, A/C.5/1260, A/C.5/L.990,
 A/C.5/L.993, A/C.5/L.1002)

First reading (continued) (A/C.5/L.990)*

PART V (SECTIONS 13 TO 16). TECHNICAL PROGRAMMES (A/7606, A/7608, A/7776, A/C.5/1260)

* Resumed from the 1324th meeting.

BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION II SUBMITTED BY THE SECOND COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/7774 ON AGENDA ITEM 38,* AND OF DRAFT RESOLUTION III SUBMITTED IN DOCUMENT A/7777 ON AGENDA ITEM 45 (A/7776, A/C.5/1260)**

13. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider on first reading the estimates submitted under part V. In the budget estimates for the financial year 1970 (A/7606), the Secretary-General had proposed an amount of \$6,908,600, comprising \$5,408,600 under sections 13, 15 and 16, for programmes other than the industrial development programme, and \$1,500,000 under section 14 for the latter. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its main report (A/7608, para. 278) had concurred in the estimate submitted under part V.

14. The Fifth Committee now had before it a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1260) stating the results of action taken by the Second Committee on the question of United Nations technical programmes, and advising the Fifth Committee of the consequences of that action for the budget for 1970. The related report by the Advisory Committee was contained in document A/7776.

15. Mr. BANNIER (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the question of the form of presentation of part V of the regular budget had been discussed by the Fifth Committee in considerable detail at the twenty-second session. The Fifth Committee's recommendation at that time,¹ namely, that all the credits for the technical co-operation programme be consolidated into one section, had not, however, been accepted by the General Assembly, and as a result the appropriations for the technical co-operation programme had been divided among four sections in the budgets for 1968 and 1969.

16. The draft resolution adopted by the Second Committee at its 1282nd meeting (A/7777, para. 8, draft resolution III)—if adopted by the General Assembly—would be a step in the direction advocated by the Fifth Committee in 1967, since its effect would be that the credits for technical co-operation in economic development, social development, public administration, human rights advisory services and narcotic drugs control would be consolidated into one section of the budget (instead of the existing three). The draft resolution adopted by the Second Committee at its 1275th meeting (A/7774, para. 9, draft resolution II) contained a decision to maintain the separate section for technical assistance in industrial development. If those two draft resolutions were adopted by the General Assembly, the annual resolution on the budget appropriations would have to be amended accordingly. The provisions currently included under sections 13, 15 and 16

* United Nations Industrial Development Organization: report of the Industrial Development Board.

** Operational activities for development:

(a) Activities of the United Nations Development Programme: reports of the Governing Council;

(b) Activities undertaken by the Secretary-General.

1 See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-second Session, Annexes*, agenda item 39, document A/6946, paras. 7 and 8.

would be consolidated into one single section—section 13—and would amount to \$5,408,600 for 1970. Section 14—under which an appropriation of \$1,500,000 had been requested—would not be affected.

17. In conclusion, he wished to draw the Fifth Committee's attention to paragraph 3 of the report (A/7776), in which the Advisory Committee restated its view that it was important to maintain the division of functions and of competence between the Main Committees of the General Assembly.

18. Mr. NÁTHON (Hungary) said that the United Nations technical assistance programmes were useful, constructive and the most successful economic activities of the United Nations system.

19. Originally, the regular programme of technical assistance had been financed from the regular budget but, by its resolution 304 (IV) of 16 November 1949, the General Assembly had established the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance, financed by voluntary contributions. Those contributions had increased over the years and, in 1958, the Special Fund had been established and had subsequently been merged with the Expanded Programme to form the United Nations Development Programme to implement and co-ordinate all technical assistance activities and ensure the optimum utilization of resources. Although the Governing Council of UNDP had become the legislative, supervisory organ for the regular programme of technical assistance, the latter continued to be financed from the administrative budget of the United Nations. The resulting dual financing of the same type of activities had led to duplication in the planning, financing and execution of the two programmes. There was no provision in the Charter under which the Organization's budget was to be used for any other purpose than to cover its other administrative expenses; not even Article 55 could be interpreted as a mandate to provide technical assistance from the regular budget. If a Member State decided not to contribute in convertible currency to the financing of the regular programme of technical assistance, could the General Assembly be expected to apply Article 19?

20. His country supported the principle of international economic co-operation, but his Government did not consider itself and the Hungarian people responsible for the current low level of the standard of living in the developing countries, or for their backwardness; therefore, the assistance it provided to the economically less favoured developing nations should not be a kind of taxation; the form of aid it provided should be in accordance with its ability to help. Consequently, United Nations technical assistance activities should be based only on voluntary contributions. Surely those who advocated the maintenance of the compulsory character of technical assistance did not really believe that part V of the budget was a safeguard against a change of mood on the part of the developed countries, and the lack of trust reflected in their insistence on retaining technical assistance as an item in the regular budget did more harm than good to international co-operation.

21. His delegation believed that part V should be removed from the regular budget and the expenses covered thereby combined with those of UNDP. Apart from the political

considerations he had mentioned, the effectiveness of technical assistance activities would be improved by such a step. The voluntary contributions made in so-called “non-convertible” currencies in no way contradicted the basic principles of technical assistance activities. Such contributions were widely utilized and as effective as any other method of financing in respect of, for example, the activities of UNIDO, which had made remarkable efforts in the utilization of such contributions.

22. As in the past, his Government continued to render technical assistance through the United Nations. At the last United Nations Pledging Conference on UNDP, his Government had increased its contribution for 1970 by 50 per cent in relation to 1969. It had also doubled its voluntary contribution to the industrial development activities of UNIDO.

23. For the reasons he had indicated, his delegation would vote against the appropriation requested under part V of the budget estimates.

24. Mr. KABORÉ (Upper Volta) observed that the Economic and Social Council in paragraph 6 of its resolution 1316 (XLIV), of 31 May 1968, requested the Secretary-General “to strengthen, both within the regular budget of the United Nations and within the technical assistance and pre-investment programmes, advisory and technical services in the development of non-agricultural resources”. Similarly, paragraph 2 of Council resolution 1426 (XLVI) of 6 June 1969 called for “substantially increased resources for the consultative and technical services related to the exploration and utilization of natural resources, taking into account the increasing needs of the developing countries”. He had been concerned to note that in spite of those requests, of the assurances given by the Secretary-General in a document submitted in May 1969 to the Economic Committee of the Council (E/AC.6/L.401/Rev.2/Add.1) and of the statement contained in the final sentence of paragraph 271 of the Advisory Committee’s main report the estimates for 1970 under sections 13 to 16 were the same as the amounts appropriated for 1969. He noted that the Secretary-General’s assurances touched on the need for additional resources for field projects and additional resources for the Resources and Transport Division. He asked for an explanation from the Secretariat as to why the estimates under part V did not show an increase in accordance with the terms of the Council resolutions. His position on the question under discussion would depend on the response given by the Secretariat.

25. Mr. SLIWKA (Poland) said that his delegation proposed that, in the interests of sound budgetary practice, the regular budget should be used only for administrative expenses and that technical assistance programmes should be financed by voluntary contributions and extra-budgetary funds. The present practice of using the regular budget for both types of expenditure should be discontinued, because it was as prejudicial to the balance of the budget as to the development of technical assistance.

26. The technical assistance programmes, to which his Government attached considerable importance, should be developed on a sound and dynamic basis. Past experience had shown clearly, however, that as the related expenses

were artificially included in the regular budget, they were necessarily subject to “growth limitations” and were an additional source of permanent tension. The current practice was anachronistic. It might have been justified before the establishment of UNDP, but experience had shown that there were more rational and more effective procedures. His Government did not intend to reduce its contribution to technical assistance activities—indeed, it had further increased its voluntary contribution to UNDP during the current year—but the increase had been possible because the contribution was paid in national currency. Many other countries were prepared to increase their contributions to technical assistance programmes, provided that they were not obliged to pay in convertible foreign currency.

27. His delegation therefore reiterated the proposal it had made at the twenty-third session (1277th meeting) that part V should be removed from the regular budget and a separate, special fund should be established to be financed by voluntary contributions in national currencies. The opening balance of such a fund should be at least equivalent to the funds now allocated under part V. He was confident that the funds available for technical programmes through such a fund would accumulate much more quickly than was now the case. The existence of UNDP was a practical demonstration of the soundness of his delegation’s proposal; it had certainly served to increase the funds available for assistance to developing countries and had facilitated a substantial contribution from countries which, like his own, did not have large reserves of foreign currency for their own needs, but were nevertheless able to participate in development in a manner more commensurate with their material resources. Those countries could offer the services of their experts, teachers and engineers as well as deliver the necessary machinery and technical equipment.

28. His delegation’s proposal would have the further significant advantage of establishing closer relations between the donor countries—including countries which were not Members of the United Nations—and the recipient countries. Since there had been no formal opposition to his delegation’s proposal, he hoped that it would be considered seriously in connexion with specific measures to improve the general budgetary structure of the Organization.

29. Mr. ELIAV (Israel) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the Advisory Committee’s recommendations concerning part V. The technical co-operation activities of the United Nations were important not only in themselves but also for the general performance and image of the Organization. Part V belonged in the regular budget both because of the modest sums involved and as a demonstration that technical co-operation was an integral part of the work of the United Nations. Furthermore, it was only fitting that the regular budget should provide some logistical support for the main body of technical co-operation activities carried out on the basis of voluntary contributions.

30. His delegation would have been prepared to consider favourably an increase in the appropriation under part V as envisaged in the Economic and Social Council resolutions just referred to by the representative of the Upper Volta.

31. Mr. MATHESON (Canada) said that he was uneasy about the proposed separate appropriation under section 14

for industrial development because it would impair the Secretary-General's flexibility in administering funds under part V of the budget. Economic and Social Council resolution 1434 (XLVII), of 25 July 1969, and the relevant action taken by the Governing Council of UNDP at its seventh session, in January 1969, supported the thesis of flexible administration. The Second Committee's move to maintain a separate section for industrial development activities ran counter to that principle. He requested a separate vote on the appropriation under section 14, on which his delegation would abstain. It would, however, vote in favour of the estimates under part V as a whole.

32. The CHAIRMAN said that, since the General Assembly's action on the Second Committee's recommendations might affect the structure of part V, it seemed appropriate at that stage to vote only on part V as a whole. The Fifth Committee would return to part V in its final form during the second reading of the budget estimates.

33. Mr. YUNUS (Pakistan) expressed the view that part V was included in the regular budget in order to reflect the collective responsibility of Member States under the Charter for the social and economic development of Member nations.

34. It had been asked why part V should be retained when it represented only a minute fraction of the total expenditure on technical co-operation. But for the same reason one might ask why it should be excluded. It had been said that part V was a safeguard against a possible reduction in voluntary contributions, or, conversely, that it was a sign of lack of trust in contributors to UNDP. Both those points seemed to him insignificant, if not irrelevant, compared to the role of part V as an expression of collective international responsibility.

35. On the particular point of contributions in local currency, his delegation felt that the Secretary-General should do his utmost to utilize local currencies and, to the extent that that proved impossible, the Government concerned and the Organization should take appropriate action.

36. The Secretary-General should be able to administer the funds appropriated under part V in a flexible manner so as to ensure their most efficient possible use. It should be kept in mind, however, that in the case of industrial development there was an intergovernmental body—the Industrial Development Board—which considered the relevant requirements and activities in detail. That body's deliberations concerning the level of expenditure for industrial development had a direct bearing on the size of the appropriation under section 14. By maintaining a separate section the General Assembly would continue to be in a position to give effect to the Board's recommendations.

37. His delegation would accordingly vote in favour of the appropriation requested under part V and the arrangements recommended in the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1260).

38. Mr. PETHERBRIDGE (Australia) concurred in the comments of the Canadian representative on section 14 and

observed that the Australian delegation had voted against the draft resolution of the Second Committee (A/7774, para. 9, draft resolution II) which called for a separate section for industrial development. His delegation held that recommendations concerning the structure of the budget should come from the Fifth Committee. Moreover, it doubted that a separate section was in the best interest of the United Nations. The figure of 1.5 million for industrial development had been reached somewhat arbitrarily; since programme needs based on country requests might actually exceed that figure, it seemed wiser not to fix a particular amount but rather to enable the Secretary-General to increase expenditure as necessary, which he could not do if industrial development remained a separate section. His delegation would abstain in the vote on section 14 if it was put to a separate vote at any stage.

39. Mr. NAITO (Japan) said that his delegation had voted against the Second Committee's draft resolution concerning section 14 (*ibid.*) in the belief that the budget could be more flexibly and effectively used if part V were to consist of chapters rather than sections. His delegation had not voted against the other draft resolution of the Second Committee: (A/7777, para. 8, draft resolution III); it supported that text in general, although not the exception made for industrial development. He wished to reiterate his delegation's view that part V should be composed of chapters.

40. Mr. NGUIAMBA (Cameroon) said that his delegation would support the estimates under part V although it was sorry to see—particularly in connexion with sections 13 and 14—that there was no increase over the appropriations for 1969. In that connexion, it had taken note of the statement in paragraph V.9 of the budget estimates for 1970, and hoped that the existing appropriations would be suitably adjusted in the light of the recommendations of the UNDP capacity study.

41. Innovations in technical assistance, such as the establishment of "pools of experts" for groups of countries, were being contemplated for the Second United Nations Development Decade. In addition, the Economic Commission for Africa, on the occasion of its tenth anniversary, had come to some far-reaching conclusions regarding ways of enhancing the effectiveness of the regional economic commissions, conclusions which he understood were now the subject of discussions between ECA and Headquarters. At a time when the trend was towards a biennial budget cycle it was necessary to proceed with caution, the more so as the Fifth Committee's work on technical co-operation was oriented towards the same objective as that pursued by the capacity study group and the Commission on International Development, under the chairmanship of Mr. Lester B. Pearson. Their combined efforts should produce solutions capable of responding to the development needs of the less favoured nations.

42. He hoped that those various considerations would be taken into account in the preparation of the planning estimate for 1971.

43. Mr. ZIEHL (United States of America) said that while he was not challenging the Chairman's ruling, he felt that the Canadian representative's request for a separate vote

raised a question which should be examined at an appropriate time, namely, whether the Committee's action on a statement of financial implications was not tantamount to the voting of an appropriation.

44. His delegation was not opposed to the over-all level of the estimate under part V suggested by the Secretary-General, but it was against the division of part V into separate sections, essentially for the reasons stated by the Canadian representative. At the twenty-second session of the General Assembly the Advisory Committee had recommended² and the Fifth Committee had agreed³ that the separate sections of part V should be abolished. The Fifth Committee's decision had subsequently been reversed by the General Assembly at its 1626th plenary meeting. Since then the Secretary-General had again suggested that the sections should be abolished, in the interest of greater flexibility and efficiency. The Advisory Committee in its report at the current session (A/7776) reiterated its earlier position that, if a Main Committee of the General Assembly thought that a given activity could be served best by a particular budgetary presentation, then it should so inform the Fifth Committee which could in turn recommend action by the Assembly. The Advisory Committee correctly criticized the Second Committee for attempting to decide matters of budgetary structure and presentation. The Second Committee was not familiar with budgetary questions and should not have disregarded the advice that it leave budgetary action to the Fifth Committee.

45. His delegation would not cast a negative vote in the Fifth Committee—as it had done in the Second Committee—but it might be forced to reconsider its position on part V, however, if other Main Committees, acting outside their terms of reference, continued to establish inappropriate budgetary structures and strictures.

46. The CHAIRMAN explained that he had not made a ruling concerning the Canadian representative's request but had simply pointed out certain procedural considerations, with which the Canadian representative had not disagreed.

47. He intended to proceed by requesting the Committee's consent to the presentation of a report to the General Assembly on the implications of the Second Committee's draft resolutions and then by asking the Fifth Committee to vote on part V as a whole, on first reading. If the Fifth Committee preferred, however, it could defer the vote until the General Assembly had voted on the draft resolutions in question, in which case it could vote on section 14, provided it was maintained. In the interest of orderly and expeditious procedure, he hoped that the Committee would not choose to defer the vote.

48. Mr. REFSHAL (Norway), speaking also on behalf of the Danish, Finnish and Swedish delegations, said, in explanation of their votes, that the Nordic delegations had always held that the needs of technical assistance programmes, including technical assistance in industrial development, could best be met within a flexible framework of appropriation for all the programmes as a whole. That had been the practice prior to 1968, when the level of appropriations for technical programmes was authorized by

the General Assembly under part V of the budget on the basis of recommendations by the Governing Council of UNDP, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council. The Nordic delegations had therefore noted with satisfaction the Council's recommendation in its resolution 1434 (XLVII) that the current system of separate section appropriations requested under part V should be replaced by chapters reflecting targets to be applied to the major fields of activity and that the Secretary-General would be given authority to co-ordinate individual projects.

49. The Nordic delegations had been unable to support subsequent proposals to maintain a separate section in part V for technical assistance in industrial development and would accordingly be unable to support a vote for appropriations under such a separate section.

50. Mr. RHODES (United Kingdom) said that the Canadian representative had anticipated many of the observations he himself had planned to make. He shared his uneasiness about the fragmentation of part V. While appreciating the technical difficulties to which the Chairman had referred, it was extremely difficult for his delegation to accept a situation in which the Fifth Committee, the principal budgetary organ, had no opportunity to express its views on a draft resolution concerned with budgetary presentation and procedure before that draft resolution was submitted to the General Assembly. He hoped that some way could be found to acquaint the Assembly with the Fifth Committee's views on the Second Committee's draft resolution. It would perhaps be sufficient if the views expressed by delegations during the current debate were fully reflected in the Committee's report.

51. Mr. YUNUS (Pakistan) recalled that the Second Committee and the Fifth Committee had at one time held joint meetings because there were many questions of concern to both. While there should be no exception to the principle that the Fifth Committee should have a voice in all administrative and budgetary questions, there were nevertheless certain budgetary issues with which the Second Committee was directly concerned. If the Committee expressed its views on the Secretary-General's note (A/C.5/1260) and then voted on part V as a whole, it would in effect have expressed its views on the Second Committee's proposals.

52. Mr. GINDEEL (Sudan) endorsed the comments of the representative of the Upper Volta with regard to the funds made available to the Resources and Transport Division. The Division had done outstanding work in his own country and, given further resources, could do even more for all developing countries. In paragraph 6 of resolution 1316 (XLIV), of 31 May 1968, the Economic and Social Council had requested the Secretary-General to strengthen, both within the regular budget of the United Nations and within the technical assistance pre-investment programmes, advisory and technical services in the development of non-agricultural resources and, in paragraph 2 of resolution 1426 (XLVI), of 6 June 1969, the Council had requested substantially increased resources for consultative and technical services in the technical assistance and pre-investment programmes. It was not clear why those resolutions had been ignored in the preparation of the budget estimates with the result that there was no increase in the allocation for the Resources and Transport Division.

² *Ibid.*, document A/6931.

³ *Ibid.*, document A/6946, paras. 7 and 8.

53. As to the question of whether the Second Committee was competent to take a decision to maintain the separate section in part V of the budget for the needs of technical assistance in industrial development, the Fifth Committee itself had recommended⁴ in 1968 that a separate section should be made available for industrial development activities under the regular programme. Furthermore, he wondered why those who questioned the Second Committee's competence in that connexion did not also question the competence of other bodies to make recommendations that there should be no separate section for industrial development activities.

54. Mr. GARRIDO (Philippines) said that the activities falling under part V of the budget were part of the over-all United Nations programme of technical assistance and should therefore be financed under the regular budget. He agreed with the Israel representative that projects financed by voluntary contributions should be supported by appropriations under the regular budget. His delegation would vote in favour of the estimate under part V because it was compatible with the general objective of mobilizing all resources for United Nations technical assistance activities.

55. Mr. TURNER (Controller), replying to the representatives of Upper Volta and the Sudan, said that it was neither envisaged nor implied in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1316 (XLIV) and 1426 (XLVI) that increased resources for consultative and technical services would be financed under part V. On the contrary, it was anticipated that such resources would be forthcoming from UNDP allocations in the light of individual country requests. In so far as the United Nations had become an executing agency for Special Fund projects in the field in question, it would attract appropriate overhead allocations from UNDP, which would be available to strengthen the technical staff attached to the Resources and Transport Division for operational purposes. The Division had been so strengthened in the past year. As countries asked for more assistance in the field of natural resources, the staff of the Division would continue to be strengthened.

56. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should be requested to report directly to the General

⁴ *Ibid.*, *Twenty-third Session, Annexes*, agenda item 74, document A/7476, para. 136.

Assembly that, should it adopt the proposals recommended by the Second Committee, part V of the budget for 1970 would comprise two sections: section 13 for the technical programmes in the fields of economic development, social development, public administration, human rights advisory services and narcotic drugs control; and section 14 for the industrial development programme. Views expressed in the debate would be reflected in the Committee's report.

It was so decided.

57. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should approve the estimates under part V on first reading; the actual apportionment between sections would be effected at the time of the second reading, taking into account the formal action by the General Assembly on the proposals before it.

An appropriation of \$6,908,600 under part V for 1970 was approved on first reading by 66 votes to 6 with 2 abstentions.

58. Mr. PALAMARCHUK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), explaining his vote, recalled that in the general discussion (1300th meeting) his delegation had dealt in detail with questions of technical assistance and had referred to the substantial aid provided by the Soviet Union to developing countries. His delegation had voted against the expenditures under part V because it did not agree that technical assistance activities should be financed from the regular budget. The meaning of Article 17 of the Charter was that the United Nations budget was solely administrative in nature and was not intended to finance technical assistance, which should be rendered on a voluntary basis. The financing of technical assistance could not be regarded as an obligation binding on Member States.

59. His delegation continued to maintain the position of principle that the regular programme of technical assistance should be excluded from the regular budget and combined with UNDP. Such action would promote the more concentrated and effective use of available resources for the purpose of providing technical assistance to developing countries.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.