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FIFTH COMMITTEE, 865th
MEETING

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Chairman: Mr. Hermod LANNUNG (Denmark).

AGENDA ITEM 55

United Nations operations in the Congo: cost estimates and financing (A/4931, A/C.5/L.677 and Add.1, A/C.5/L.678) (*continued*)*

DRAFT INTERIM REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.678)

1. Mr. ARRAIZ (Venezuela), Rapporteur, introducing his draft interim report (A/C.5/L.678), said that he had tried to describe the debates and the vote as accurately as possible.
2. Mr. ROSHCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that by saying in paragraph 4 that there had been wide support for the draft resolution the Rapporteur had introduced a subjective note which was out of place in such a report. An indication of the results of the vote was preferable to an assessment of that kind.
3. It was also inaccurate to state in the same sentence that most speakers had agreed that the draft resolution was of a purely procedural character. Quite a large minority of delegations had opposed that view. The text as it stood was therefore unacceptable.
4. Mr. ARRAIZ (Venezuela), Rapporteur, felt that the second observation by the Soviet Union representative was valid; he proposed that the words "most speakers" should be replaced by the words "a number of representatives". On the other hand, it was clear from the Committee's discussions that the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.677 and Add.1) had been supported by

a large number of delegations. That was an objective fact. He would be grateful if the Soviet Union representative could withdraw his first suggestion.

5. Mr. ROSHCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he was unable to share the view of the Rapporteur, who should refrain from assessing the amount of support the draft resolution had received. Everyone could refer to the results of the vote and draw his own conclusions.

6. Mr. MORRIS (Liberia) said that, as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, he would have no objection if, as suggested by the Soviet Union representative, the Rapporteur included the results of the vote in the sentence in question.

7. Mr. ARRAIZ (Venezuela), Rapporteur, proposed that the first sentence of paragraph 4 should be worded as follows: "a number of speakers supporting the draft resolution, agreed that it was ...".

8. Mr. VENKATARAMAN (India) preferred the wording "stated that it was ...".

9. Mr. ARRAIZ (Venezuela), Rapporteur, accepted that suggestion.

10. Mr. MENDEZ (Philippines) considered that it would be better to state the result of the vote.

11. Mr. NOLAN (Ireland) pointed out that paragraph 4 dealt with the discussion and not with the results of the vote, which were given in paragraph 10. The Rapporteur's suggestion, as amended by the Indian representative, seemed the best.

12. In reply to a question by the CHAIRMAN, Mr. ROSHCHIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had no objection to that suggestion.

The draft interim report (A/C.5/L.678), as amended, was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 64

Personnel questions (*continued*):

- (a) Geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat (A/4776 and Corr.1, chap. IV; A/4794, paras. 31-40; A/4901, A/C.5/890) (*continued*);
- (b) Proportion of fixed-term staff (A/C.5/891) (*continued*)

13. Mr. VERRET (Haiti) recalled that at the fifteenth session his delegation had observed that the principle of geographical distribution should apply to all countries and all levels. It did not claim that new posts should be created where grading requirements restricted the number of staff but it was only fair that all countries should participate in the work of the Secretariat. It was clear from document A/C.5/890 that on 31 August 1961 fifteen States still had no nationals in the Secretariat. The essential aim was

*Resumed from the 863rd meeting.

that all Member States, which were equal under the terms of the Charter, should be able to contribute to the staff of the Secretariat. Posts should be allotted on the basis of the population and area of States, not on that of their budget contributions.

14. His delegation was glad that, in spite of individual differences of opinion, the Committee of Experts on the Review of the Activities and Organization of the Secretariat had favoured a better distribution of posts within the Secretariat; it would support any draft resolution designed to improve that distribution.

AGENDA ITEM 94

Enlargement of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/4916) (*continued*)

15. Mr. GREZ (Chile) suggested that consideration of the above question should be postponed until the following day so that Mr. Ortiz Martín (Costa Rica), who was deeply concerned with it, could address the Committee.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.20 a.m.