United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

Official Records



Page

FIFTH COMMITTEE, 966th

Friday, 7 December 1962, at 3.15 p.m.

NEW YORK

CONTENTS

305
305
307
309
310

Chairman: Mr. Jan Paul BANNIER (Netherlands).

AGENDA ITEM 62

Budget estimates for the financial year 1963 (A/5121 and Corr.1, A/5179, A/5205, A/5207, A/5243, A/5263, A/ 5267, A/5272 and Corr.1, A/5280, A/5299, A/5309, A/ 5312, A/5331, A/C.5/919, A/C.5/923 and Add.1, A/C.5/ 925, A/C.5/926, A/C.5/928, A/C.5/930, A/C.5/931 and Corr.1, A/C.5/935, A/C.5/937, A/C.5/942, A/C.5/945, A/C.5/946, A/C.5/949, A/C.5/950, A/C.5/951, A/C.5/ 953, A/C.5/955, A/C.5/956, A/C.5/L.726, A/C.5/L.730, A/C.5/L.734, A/C.5/L.736, A/C.5/L.743, A/C.5/L.748, A/C.5/L.756, A/C.5/L.758, A/C.5/L.759) (continued)*

<u>United Nations Conference on the Application of Science</u> and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas (A/C.5/955)

1. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/955) summarizing the new proposals put forward by the Conference secretariat on the form in which the Conference proceedings were to be published (paragraph 5); those proposals had been approved by the Secretary-General and by the Advisory Committee on Adminis2. In the absence of any proposals, he suggested that the Committee should approve the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the General Assembly should concur in the publication, in the general form indicated in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's report, of the proceedings of the Conference.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 65

Review of the pattern of conferences (A/5317 and Corr.1) (continued)

3. Mr. SINGH (India) said that, although he shared the view expressed by the Australian representative at the 965th meeting, he wished to record his appreciation of the work done by the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on the review of the pattern of conferences. That work had, of course, been preliminary in character and the Committee would certainly have to leave the Secretary-General another year in which to see how matters developed, having regard to the decisions already taken, and how savings might be made.

4. Care would have to be taken to prevent duplication between conferences and to keep expenditure within the prescribed limits at all times. The engagement of temporary staff should be avoided so far as possible, and the conference programme needed careful coordination. It would be desirable for the Secretary-General to submit specific proposals on the subject at the eighteenth session.

5. He supported the Secretary-General's proposals and the Advisory Committee's recommendations (A/5317 and Corr.1) but hoped that more drastic action would be taken to improve the co-ordination of meetings and conferences.

6. Mr. QUIJANO (Argentina) considered that General Assembly resolution 1202 (XII) had been duly applied during the five years since its adoption and had been a valuable guide both to Member States and to the Secretary-General.

7. However, owing to the expansion of United Nations activities, the number of meetings and conferences had increased to the point where the permanent staff of the Secretariat could no longer service them, and temporary staff would have to be engaged for every <u>ad hoc</u> meeting convened in 1963. To remedy that state of affairs the Advisory Committee had recommended that, when the General Assembly reviewed its resolution 1202 (XII), it should take steps toward

trative and Budgetary Questions. The cost of publishing the proceedings in the new form was estimated at approximately 500,000; that did not exceed the reduced level of appropriations recommended for the purpose by the Advisory Committee in its main report to the General Assembly (A/5207, para. 94).

^{*}Resumed from the 962nd meeting.

a greater rationalization of the meetings pattern (A/5207, para. 26), and the Fifth Committee had approved on first reading the establishment of twenty Professional posts and fourteen General Service posts to strengthen the Office of Conference Services, whose staff performed a thankless task with remarkable competence and efficiency.

8. It was obvious, however, that the thirty-four new posts would not solve the problem. For the meetings of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Committee alone the Secretary-General had requested, and the Assembly had approved, the recruitment of 186 temporary Professional and General Service staff. The Assembly had also authorized the Secretary-General to recruit temporary staff for the meetings of the two Sub-Committees of the International Law Commission and for the Sub-Committee on a Treaty for the Discontinuance of Nuclear Weapons Tests. Temporary staff would also be needed for the United Nations Conference on the Application of Science and Technology for the Benefit of the Less Developed Areas, for the International Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Consular Relations and for the International Conference on Trade and Development. It appeared, therefore, that the problem created by the increase in the number of meetings would be solved neither by drawing up a fixed programme of conferences in accordance with resolution 1202 (XII) nor by strengthening the Office of Conference Services. Both those measures had been superseded by Assembly decisions calling for more and more meetings.

9. It was obvious that some meetings could never be foreseen in a programme and that the Assembly would continue to approve the establishment of new bodies and the convening of new conferences; that merely reflected the controlled expansion of the Organization's activities which, as the Secretary-General pointed out in his foreword to the budget estimates for the financial year 1963 (A/5205), was approved as a matter of policy by the majority of Member States.

10. It would certainly be a mistake to adopt a rigid policy on meetings and conferences if the United Nations was to fulfil its function and achieve the purposes of the Charter, but it was necessary and wholly realistic that steps should be taken to make more rational use of existing resources.

11. His delegation, for its part, considered that the Assembly should extend the provisions of resolution 1202 (XII) and should instruct all its organs that, when they proposed to hold new conferences, they should take the established conference schedule into account and set the dates for their new conferences at times when they could be serviced by the permanent staff of the Secretariat. The order of priority of the activities concerned should also be taken into account in setting the date of meetings which did not appear in the conference schedule for a particular year. Lastly, it was essential that the periodicity of the meetings of commissions and other bodies should be kept under constant review in order to space them out as widely as efficiency permitted.

12. Mr. KITTANI (Iraq) said that he was sorely tempted to launch into a detailed re-examination of the subject, for the situation had deteriorated since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 1202 (XII); however, he would refrain from doing so because the Secretary-General's report (A/5317 and Corr.1) contained firm recommendations which he unreservedly supported and which the Advisory Committee had approved.

13. Indeed, it would be difficult for the Assembly to review the question of the conference pattern in substance at that stage, before it was known what results would be achieved by the various decisions which the Economic and Social Council and the Fifth Committee had recently taken, and which were summarized in paragraph 11, sub-paragraphs (c) and (d), of the Secretary-General's report. Moreover, there was a strong possibility that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Improvement of the Methods of Work of the General Assembly which was currently reviewing the Assembly's methods of work would make proposals which would have salutary consequences for the conference pattern. For all those reasons, he was prepared to accept the proposal of the Secretary-General, who considered that it would be of advantage to revert to the substance of the question of the conference pattern at the eighteenth session, on the understanding that the Assembly would extend the provisions of resolution 1202 (XII), with the exception of paragraph 2 (d), for a further year.

14. However, it was essential that the Rapporteur should state clearly in his report that the Committee intended to resume consideration of the conference pattern at the beginning of the eighteenth session, for by mid-session the conference pattern was already more or less fixed and very difficult to change. The Committee's report must also make it clear that, between now and the eighteenth session, the Committee expected the Secretary-General to draw the attention of the various United Nations organs to the need for moderation in fixing their programme of meetings for 1964, when only a small number of meetings and conferences could be held at Headquarters owing to the major reconstruction work to be carried out in that year under the programme recently approved by the Committee.

15. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) said that he had already had occasion to state during the general discussion on the budget estimates that he fully shared the Advisory Committee's views on the subject and that it seemed to him increasingly necessary that the conference programme should be rationalized to the fullest possible extent. Since the Advisory Committee had approved the Secretary-General's proposals, he would not revert to the substance of the question.

16. He disagreed with the Argentine representative's observations to the effect that a controlled expansion of meetings and conferences was inevitable, but supported that representative's specific proposals and those made by previous speakers. If, as he hoped, those proposals represented the views of the Committee as a whole, they could be recorded in the Rapporteur's report as a guide to the Secretary-General.

17. In particular, he supported the two proposals made by the Iraqi delegation; he also accepted the Secretary-General's recommendations, which the Advisory Committee had approved.

18. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should include in his report the two Iraqi proposals and also a draft resolution for subsequent submission to the General Assembly, in which the Assembly would decide to extend the provisions of resolution 1202 (XII) for a further year, except for the provisions mentioned in paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's report. The Committee would vote on that draft resolution when it took up the Rapporteur's report.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 64

Obligations of Members under the Charter of the United Nations, with regard to the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and the Organization's operations in the Congo: advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (A/5161 and Corr. 1, A/C.5/952, A/C.5/957, A/ C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3, A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr. 1, A/C.5/L.763 and Corr. 1) (continued)

19. Mr. LIMA (Cameroon) considered that the long debate on the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice $\frac{1}{}$ was unjustifiable; the General Assembly itself had requested that opinion in resolution 1731 (XVI). The Court, one of the principal organs of the United Nations, was the highest authority in international law. It had always brilliantly demonstrated its skill and competence; the General Assembly had hitherto always followed its opinions and should, in the present instance, accept the Court's opinion unanimously, as the very existence of the United Nations depended on it.

20. Draft resolutions A/C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3 and A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1, which the Cameroonian delegation had co-sponsored, would provide the most adequate solution to the problem facing the Committee. The problem was not, strictly speaking, a financial one; it reflected a conflict of ideologies and was a basic legal problem which had so far prevented the United Nations from bringing stability into its financial affairs.

21. It was clearly essential to follow the Court's advice if the United Nations was to operate effectively. The General Assembly must at all times be enabled to apportion the expenses of the Organization among Member States. The Federal Republic of Cameroon, although shouldering the difficult burden of its own development, had paid all its assessments in respect of the regular budget and of the peace-keeping operations and felt that the discussion of the method of financing threatened the very existence of the United Nations.

22. It was self-evident that the Court's Opinion should be accepted. Hence it had been necessary to prepare a draft resolution whereby ad hoc financial arrangements could be replaced by an orderly and stable system to cover the cost of peace-keeping operations; draft resolution A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1 was of that nature. The purpose of operative paragraph 2 was to establish an improved method of financing peace-keeping operations which would take into account the over-all economic situation of Member States and their real ability to pay. That was particularly important for countries with a low per caput income, because peace-keeping operations often involved heavy expenditure. All the developing countries should therefore support that draft resolution for the reason he had mentioned and also because it was often those countries which were most directly affected in the United Nations operations to maintain peace and security.

23. Draft resolutions A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1 and A/C.5/L.763 and Corr.1 both had the same objective but the methods of approach were different. The method advocated in the former draft resolution was the better, because the Working Group of Fifteen on the Examination of the Administrative and Budgetary Procedures of the United Nations could make extensive use of the experience it had already gained. There were several points of similarity in the two drafts and his delegation appealed to the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.763 and Corr.1 to submit amendments to draft resolution A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/ Corr.1 rather than to maintain a separate proposal; the Committee could then vote on a single text.

24. His delegation, recalling the Secretary-General's statement at the 961st meeting (A/C.5/L.952), emphasized that a solution must be found to the problem confronting the Committee before the very existence of the United Nations was imperilled.

25. Mr. OREAMUNO (Costa Rica) said that his delegation, like many others, was aware of the importance of the matter under consideration. It was important for several reasons: it was of extreme urgency and would remain so until the financial crisis through which the United Nations was passing had been settled once and for all. The very future of the United Nations was at stake. In addition, the attitude of the United Nations towards an advisory opinion of its principal judicial organ raised the question of the value of legal considerations in international relations at the present time. His delegation had therefore felt in duty bound to join with other delegations in submitting draft resolution A/C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3, under which the General Assembly would accept the Court's advisory opinion. Respect for international law was one of the most effective methods of maintaining harmony among nations and safeguarding the interests and sovereignty of States, particularly of those which, like Costa Rica, had neither the power nor the desire to impose its will by force. Once the International Court of Justice had given its opinion, dissident opinions could be considered as interpretations which it had not been able to accept.

26. Though Costa Rica was economically weak, the financial situation of the United Nations was a matter of deep concern to it. In the interests of equity and realism, Costa Rica considered it necessary to make a comprehensive statement of the various factors involved: the financial position of the United Nations, the advisory opinion of the Court, and the particular circumstances of Member States. It should be remembered that, according to the Court's advisory opinion, "The obligation is one thing: the way in which the obligation is met-that is from what source the funds are secured—is another."^{2/} The draft resolution prepared by nineteen Latin American countries (A/C.5/L.763 and Corr.1) and brilliantly introduced by the Brazilian delegation, offered an objective solution that would provide for the best possible apportionment of the costs of peace-keeping operations. It should find ready acceptance with the Committee especially since it was based on previous resolutions of the United Nations.

27. Mr. VELA (Ecuador) recalled that, at the sixteenth session, the General Assembly had adopted three important and urgent decisions because of the

<u>1</u>/ Certain expenses of the United Nations (Article 17, paragraph 2), of the Charter), Advisory Opinion of 20 July 1962: I.C.J. Reports 1962, p. 151, transmitted to Members of the General Assembly by a note of the Secretary-General (A/5161 and Corr.1).

^{2/} Ibid., p. 169.

financial crisis which had threatened the United Nations with bankruptcy. It had authorized a bond issue, guaranteed the financing of UNEF and ONUC until the end of 1962, and requested from the International Court of Justice, the supreme judicial organ of the international community, an advisory opinion which would enable it to establish a permanent system for financing operations carried out in order to maintain international peace and security. To reject the Court's opinion would therefore undermine the Court's prestige and authority. Hence his delegation, anxious to ensure that the law should be respected and strengthened in international relations, would accept the Court's opinion, as the Chairman of the Ecuadorian delegation had stated in the General Assembly on 25 September 1962 (1131st plenary meeting). His delegation would therefore support draft resolution A/C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3.

28. But it would be pointless to accept the Court's opinion without immediately working out an arrangement to guarantee the orderly financing of the operations under discussion. That was why nineteen Latin American countries had submitted draft resolution A/C.5/L.763 and Corr.1 which, like draft resolution A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1 recognized that the peace-keeping operations placed a heavy financial burden upon Member States whose capacity to contribute funds was limited, emphasized the need to reach agreement as soon as possible on a special procedure to cover those expenditures and proposed that the Working Group should be requested to prepare a special scale of assessments or a new method of financing for those operations. However, draft resolution A/C.5/L.763 and Corr.1 was more comprehensive than the other and gave the Working Group instructions based on previous decisions of the General Assembly. It was therefore more realistic and practicable. His delegation hoped that it would be unanimously adopted and that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1 could support it.

29. Mr. TARDOS (Hungary) was surprised that, having admitted that advisory opinions of the Court were not binding on the General Assembly, some representatives should have stated that to reject the Court's opinion would be to show little respect for all the principles of international law. That argument had been rebutted in particular by two eminent United States jurists, Mr. Manley O. Hudson and Professor Lissitzyn. The former had deplored the fact that acceptance by the parties concerned of most of the advisory opinions rendered by the Permanent Court of International Justice had led to the Court's advisory opinions being regarded as equivalent to judgements, which was at variance both with the truth and with the Court's own interests. According to the latter authority, the very fact that an international organ requested the Court to give an opinion on a dispute involving several States was usually an indication that those States had not agreed to settle the dispute by a binding judicial decision. In several cases, the interested States had expressly declared that they did not regard themselves bound by the Court's opinion. The fact that the Court's opinions had no binding force was even more obvious when it was considered that, in certain cases, the States concerned stipulated that they would regard the Court's opinion as binding. Obviously that was not so in the present case. It would be contrary to international law totry to ascribe binding force to the Court's opinion.

30. His delegation also had serious misgivings concerning the actual opinion of the Court for reasons already adduced by the judges who had opposed the Court's decision, by various government representatives and by several members of the Fifth Committee. Expressed in simple terms, it could be stated that it was contrary to the letter and the spirit of the Charter to make Member States, which were in no way responsible, bear the consequences of acts of direct and indirect aggression committed by other Member States. Hence the Hungarian delegation would be unable to accept draft resolution A/C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3 as it stood.

31. Mr. BUNCHOEM (Thailand) said that he was deeply concerned at the refusal of certain Member States to discharge their obligations. There was no longer any room for doubt because the Court, as the highest judicial authority, had given a ruling. All Member States must therefore comply with the Court's opinion even though they did not agree with it. The primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rested with the United Nations, but it could not meet that responsibility if the Member States refused to defray the expenditure that was involved. Refusal to pay was consequently tantamount to repudiating the purposes of the United Nations and the principles of the Charter. The Thai delegation believed, as did the Secretary-General, that that was avitally important problem which transcended all political controversy, and it would therefore support draft resolution A/C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3.

32. As to the manner of distributing the financial burden, his delegation was ready to accept any just and equitable method which took the actual possibilities of the smaller countries into account. Draft resolutions A/C.5/L.761 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1 and A/C.5/L.763 and Corr.1 both had the same objective, but the first seemed preferable because it gave the Working Group full freedom and did not impose any excessively rigid terms of reference upon it. In addition, that draft recommended the re-establishment of the Working Group of Fifteen, which was familiar with the problem, whereas a group comprising twentyone members might be too large to be efficient. As there was nevertheless no great difference between the two drafts, he supported the Cameroonian delegation in asking the sponsors of the two draft resolutions to endeavour to agree on a joint text.

33. The CHAIRMAN, giving the floor to the representative of Trinidad and Tobago, congratulated him on the admission of his country to the United Nations and welcomed him on behalf of the Committee.

34. Mr. CLARKE (Trinidad and Tobago) pointed out that draft resolution A/C.5/L.760 and Add.1-3 dealt with a matter of such profound importance to the Organization that its rejection by the Assembly would have far-reaching consequences.

35. It could not be disputed that the General Assembly had been sorely in need of authoritative legal guidance on the question it had submitted to the International Court, which was the sole competent judicial organ that could give such an opinion. As the Court had given a clear and affirmative reply, it would seem that common sense required the Assembly to accept and act upon the advice received.

36. The arguments which had been advanced against the Court's opinion were hardly convincing. The Court, after mature reflection, had rejected the view that the expenses in question had been authorized inviolation of Article 43 of the Charter and were not expenses within the meaning of Article 17 of the Charter. That view had been reiterated in the Committee, but it continued none the less to be the opinion of one delegation in opposition to the opinion of the International Court of Justice. The basic question was, moreover, whether the General Assembly accepted an opinion which it had requested and received, and that question could not be settled by denouncing the "colonialists" and the crimes which they had perpetrated or by citing the opinion of one or more judges of the Court.

37. In an attempt to prove that the Court's opinion did not have binding force, one representative had quoted a passage from that opinion in which it was said that

"... the opinion which the Court is in course of rendering is an advisory opinion".

The remainder of that text, however, read as follows:

"As anticipated in 1945, therefore, each organ must, in the first place at least, determine its own jurisdiction. If the Security Council, for example, adopts a resolution purportedly for the maintenance of international peace and security and if, in accordance with a mandate or authorization in such resolution, the Secretary-General incurs financial obligations, these amounts must be presumed to constitute 'expenses of the Organization'." $\frac{3}{2}$

The quotation had been intended to prove that the General Assembly could not convert a mere advisory opinion into a decision that had binding effect. Actually, there was no question whatever of the General Assembly imposing a decision of the Court as such on the Member States. The General Assembly was merely, in the exercise of its functions, taking its own decision in the light of the Court's opinion, and that decision, like any resolution of the Assembly, would be binding upon the Member States.

38. The view had also been propounded that because the United Nations was neither a State nor a super-State, the recommendations of the General Assembly were binding only on those Member States that voted in favour of them or decided to accept them. If that view was correct, it was difficult to understand why a two-thirds majority or for that matter any majority was necessary for the passage of a resolution. In that case, the ultimate consequence would be that each Member State would act in accordance with its own opinions without regard to the opinions of the others; the acceptance of that concept would deal a mortal blow to the United Nations and to the aspirations of the smaller countries.

39. As the representative of Jordan had pointed out, the Court had confined its consideration to the legal aspect of the problem. Hence the validity of the Court's advisory opinion could not be contested without undermining the authority of the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. As, moreover, the concept of majority decision was recognized by most systems of law, it was obvious that there was not a single convincing argument in support of rejecting the opinion of the Court.

40. The operations on whose nature the International Court of Justice had been called upon to pronounce

had entailed expenditure far exceeding the amount of the Organization's budget. They had been intended as collective measures for the maintenance of international peace and security; they had achieved a considerable degree of success, and had enhanced the prestige and authority of the United Nations. However, the extent to which the financial crisis resulting from them threatened the Organization's very existence was well known. Therein resided the crucial importance of the question under discussion. But the problem was of far greater significance. The United Nations had been conceived as a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of their common ends. Although the conflict of ideologies and national interests inevitably persisted, there was reason to hope for a world improved by complete disarmament, the disappearance of colonialism, economic independence, and individual freedom. Those objectives would never be attained if Member States displayed such obstinacy with regard to a question like that of the Organization's expenses, in which ideologies, national interests or national security were not seriously at stake. If the opinion of the International Court was rejected, what organ could ever exert the slightest moral pressure on those who did not share the view of the majority? If agreement could not be reached on that question, there was little chance of its being reached on others. In the long run the question at issue was one of life or death, and the Organization must resolve it.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF DRAFT RESOLUTION II SUBMITTED BY THE FOURTH COMMITTEE IN DOCU-MENT A/5310 ON AGENDA ITEM 57** (A/C.5/954)

41. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider, in accordance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the financial implications of draft resolution II submitted by the Fourth Committee (A/5310, para. 27).

42. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that, having considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/954) and proceeded to an exchange of views with the representative of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee had recognized that, as the Secretary-General had stated, the expenditures entailed by the adoption of the draft resolution submitted by the Fourth Committee would probably amount to \$45,000 in 1963 but could conceivably be met from within the total appropriations for section 18-Special missions, and section 19-United Nations Field Service-of the 1963 budget. The Advisory Committee accordingly shared the Secretary-General's view that no additional appropriations were needed for that purpose in 1963.

43. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Committee should inform the General Assembly that the adoption of the draft resolution would entail expenditures estimated at about \$45,000 for 1963, but that those expenditures could conceivably be met from within the total appropriations for sections 18 and 19 of the 1963 budget.

It was so decided.

<u>3/ Ibid.</u>, p. 168.

^{**}Question of South West Africa:

⁽a) Report of the United Nations Special Committee for South West Africa,

⁽b) Special educational and training programmes for South West Africa; report of the Secretary-General.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF AMENDMENTS (A/L.408) TO THE DRAFT RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE SECOND COMMITTEE IN DOCUMENT A/5316 ON AGENDA ITEM 36*** (A/C.5/958)

44. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the financial implications of the amendments submitted by Canada and Peru (A/L.408) to the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee (A/5316, para. 27).

45. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) recalled that the Fifth Committee had already informed the General Assembly (A/5326) of the financial implications of the adoption of the draft resolution to which amendments (A/L.408) had been submitted at the 1189th plenary meeting of the General Assembly. Whereas the original draft resolution had provided that the Conference should be convened not later than September 1963, the amendments would have the effect of postponing its opening until the early months of 1964. The Secretary-General had indicated that, should the Conference be held early in 1964, there would be no change in the total financial implications as reported

by the Fifth Committee. However, the distribution of the expenditures in question between the financial years 1963 and 1964 would be modified, \$802,400 falling in 1963 and \$697,600 in 1964. Should the third session of the Preparatory Committee not be held., there would be a further saving of \$56,000 in the financial year 1963. The Advisory Committee approved the Secretary-General's conclusions as a whole, although in its opinion some additional savings could be effected in view of the fact that the Conference would not take place during the regular session of the General Assembly. The Advisory Committee could revert to the question of the 1964 portion of the estimate at its 1963 summer session. It accordingly recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly that, should the Conference be held in 1964, the financial implications would be as stated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 3 of document A/C.5/958.

It was so decided.

46. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should report directly to the General Assembly on the decisions which the Committee had just taken.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.

^{***}Question of holding an international conference on trade problems.