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**FIFTH COMMITTEE, 983rd  
 MEETING**

(Closing meeting)

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**NEW YORK**

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Chairman: Mr. Jan Paul BANNIER  
 (Netherlands).

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AGENDA ITEM 61

Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1962 (concluded)\*

DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.776)

The draft report containing the draft resolution on the supplementary estimates for the financial year 1962 (A/C.5/L.776) was adopted by 47 votes to 9, with 1 abstention.

1. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that, for reasons which it had explained in detail at the sixteenth session, his delegation had been unable to approve the budget estimates for the financial year 1962. He was also unable to approve the supplementary estimates for that year, which included appropriations for activities contrary to the purposes of the Organization, such as those of the so-called United Nations Representative on the so-called Question of Hungary.

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/5336, A/5358, A/5369, 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 and Add.1, 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.5/963, A/C.5/967, A/C.5/972, 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, A/C.5/L.777, A/C.5/L.780) (concluded)

Question of taxes paid by the United Nations in the various countries in which it has offices (A/C.5/972) (concluded)

2. Mr. SOLTYSIAK (Poland) regretted that he had been unable to be present when the Legal Counsel had made a statement on that question at the 982nd meeting; he was glad the text of that statement had been published as a Committee document (A/C.5/972).

3. The fact that numerous statements had been made on that question in the Fifth Committee since the thirteenth session proved that it was a matter of concern to many delegations. In his opinion, all products and goods imported by the United Nations for its own

\*Resumed from the 978th meeting.

use, for the use of delegations and for that of the staff, including wines, spirits and tobacco sold in the delegates' lounge and the cafeteria, should be exempt from all duties and taxes. The members of the Secretariat, as international civil servants, should enjoy the same privileges as the personnel of delegations in that respect. The example set by the French Government a few years previously in granting such privileges to the staff of UNESCO should be followed by the Governments of all countries in which the United Nations had offices. He hoped that the forthcoming negotiations on that subject with the United States Government, on which the Legal Counsel had appeared fairly optimistic, would produce good results. His delegation had been glad to learn that the Committee would have before it at the eighteenth session a more detailed report containing information on the level of taxes paid by the Organization and indicating the outcome of the negotiations to be conducted by the Legal Counsel.

**Basic programme of conferences for 1963 (A/C.5/945 and Add.1)**

4. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to the changes which had been made in the basic programme of conferences for 1963 as a result of decisions taken by the General Assembly at the current session (A/C.5/945/Add.1). He suggested that the Committee should take note of those changes.

*It was so decided.*

**Construction of the United Nations building in Santiago, Chile (concluded)\*\***

DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.777)

*The draft report (A/C.5/L.777) was adopted.*

**Budget estimates for the financial year 1963**

DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.780)

*Draft budget resolution for the financial year 1963 (A/C.5/L.780, para. 66, draft resolution I)*

*Part A of the draft resolution was adopted by 55 votes to 11, with 3 abstentions.*

*Part B of the draft resolution was adopted unanimously.*

*Part C of the draft resolution was adopted by 56 votes to 10 with 3 abstentions.*

*Draft resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1963 (A/C.5/L.780, para. 66, draft resolution II)*

*The draft resolution was adopted by 58 votes to 11, with 1 abstention.*

5. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had voted against that draft resolution because, in his delegation's view, it was not for the Secretary-General or the Advisory Committee to decide what expenditure should be incurred for peace-

keeping operations; that was the responsibility of the Security Council, and consequently the General Assembly could not delegate to the Secretary-General or to the Advisory Committee a power which it did not possess under the Charter.

*Draft resolution relating to the Working Capital Fund for 1963 (A/C.5/L.780, para. 66, draft resolution III)*

6. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) felt that the wording of part A, operative paragraph 2 of the draft resolution relating to the Working Capital Fund for 1963 (A/C.5/L.780, para. 66) was somewhat ambiguous; it should be made clear that Member States were required, not to make advances totalling \$40 million to the Working Capital Fund, but merely to make good the shortfall up to that amount.

7. Mr. TURNER (Controller) said that paragraph 2 was drafted in exactly the same form as the corresponding paragraphs of all the resolutions on the Working Capital Fund which had been adopted over the past fifteen years; hence the United Kingdom representative need feel no misgivings about it.

8. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) said that the explanation was satisfactory to him.

9. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) considered that, in part B, operative paragraph 2, the word "reconsider", should be replaced by "review".

10. Mr. KITTANI (Iraq) felt that the word "reconsider" was more appropriate. The word "review" would describe an operation which the Committee was normally expected to carry out every year, whereas in 1963 it should not confine itself to a mere routine check.

11. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) agreed.

12. After an exchange of views between Mr. BENDER (United States of America) and Mr. TURNER (Controller), the CHAIRMAN suggested that the word "reconsider" should be retained, on the understanding that there was no difference in meaning between that term and the word "review".

*Part A of the draft resolution was adopted by 58 votes to 11, with 3 abstentions.*

*Part B of the draft resolution was adopted by 59 votes to 10, with 4 abstentions.*

13. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) stressed that the two parts of the draft resolution just adopted were inseparable. His delegation had supported part A, and particularly paragraph 1 thereof, only in the light of part B.

*The draft report (A/C.5/L.780) was adopted.*

**AGENDA ITEMS 32 AND 63**

**United Nations Emergency Force:**

**(b) Cost estimates for the maintenance of the Force (concluded)**

**United Nations operations in the Congo: cost estimates and financing (concluded)**

14. Mr. SILVEIRA DA MOTA (Brazil) said that he wished to explain why his delegation had abstained at the 982nd meeting from voting on the draft resolution concerning the United Nations Operation in the Congo

\*\*Resumed from the 980th meeting.

(A/C.5/L.774 and Add.1, draft resolution B). In the Brazilian Government's view the Operation had yielded relatively satisfactory results in the first year, but it was essential that a solution to the Congo problem should be found soon, not only because of its political aspects but also because Member States could not continue to bear the heavy costs involved.

15. His delegation had been unable to vote in favour of the draft resolution, which had not been supported by detailed budget estimates and which had again provided for expenditure at an average rate of \$10 million a month; that represented a very heavy burden for Member States, particularly those of limited capacity to pay. His delegation fervently hoped that the Working Group of twenty-one members would find, for the financing of peace-keeping operations involving heavy expenditures such as those for the Congo, a formula which would more adequately reflect the special nature of those expenditures and the economic situation of countries like Brazil.

#### DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.778)

16. Mr. QUAO (Ghana), Rapporteur, proposed that a new paragraph 10, reading as follows, should be inserted after paragraph 9:

"10. Several delegations referred to the need for the Secretary-General to seek further economies in the Middle East operation, which should be kept under close review and not become regarded as a permanent feature in the area. Disappointment was also expressed that, even after two years, proper budgeting for the Congo operation still proved impracticable because of the many uncertainties; and the importance of strict administrative and financial controls was emphasized."

Paragraphs 10 to 12 of the existing text would be renumbered accordingly.

*The Rapporteur's proposal was adopted.*

17. The CHAIRMAN assured the Brazilian representative that his delegation would be added to those mentioned in paragraph 8 as having spoken in explanation of vote.

*The draft report (A/C.5/L.778), as amended, was adopted.*

#### AGENDA ITEM 69

Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and with the International Atomic Energy Agency: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (concluded)\*\*\*

#### DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.779)

*The draft report (A/C.5/L.779) was adopted.*

\*\*\*Resumed from the 978th meeting.

#### AGENDA ITEM 67

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations: report of the Committee on Contributions (concluded)

#### DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (A/C.5/L.781)

18. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) proposed that the second sentence of paragraph 11 of the draft report (A/C.5/L.781) should be amended to read as follows: "If as a result of further expert study adjustments were warranted, the Committee on Contributions would undoubtedly be the first to recognize that these should be made."

19. Mr. QUAO (Ghana), Rapporteur, accepted that proposal.

20. He indicated, on the other hand, that the USSR representative had asked him to add the following sentences to paragraph 7 of the draft report: "In the course of the discussion, several delegations strongly supported the USSR draft resolution. They were of the opinion that the principle of a ceiling on the assessment of the highest contributor should be abolished because it conflicted with the fundamental principle that the scale of assessments should be established in accordance with certain specific factors as referred to in the USSR draft resolution."

21. Mr. NOLAN (Ireland) observed that the expression "ceiling on the assessment of the highest contributor" was inaccurate, since such a ceiling might equally well be placed on the assessments of more than one country.

22. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) said that he would have no objection to the proposed amendment provided that the words "the fundamental principle" were replaced by the words "what they regarded as the fundamental principle".

23. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) accepted the United Kingdom proposal. On the other hand the Irish representative's objection seemed to him to be unfounded, for the purpose of the paragraph in question was to record the views of certain delegations that had in fact expressed themselves in the terms to which the Irish representative took exception.

24. Mr. QUAO (Ghana), Rapporteur, said that he would accordingly insert in the report the passage proposed by the Soviet Union, as amended. The second USSR amendment, which he as Rapporteur had accepted, was to insert in the last sentence of paragraph 6, after the words "official statistics", the words "and on ability to pay".

25. In addition the following clause would be added at the end of paragraph 12: "on the understanding that the matter would be referred to the Committee on Contributions for its consideration".

26. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) said that he could not agree to the last-mentioned addition, because the Committee as a whole had never decided to refer the matter to the Committee on Contributions for consideration. At the most some delegations, including his own, had said that they would not object to the transmittal of the USSR draft resolution to the Committee on Contributions as part of the Fifth Committee's report.

27. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the purpose of the paragraph was to state, not the views of the Fifth Committee as a whole, but only those of the Soviet delegation.

28. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) said that he had no objection whatsoever to the inclusion of the Soviet delegation's views in the report and suggested that the words "on the understanding" be replaced by "on his understanding". In the circumstances, however, he would like a sentence on the following lines to be added to the paragraph: "Several delegations, including that of the United States, said they could not agree to have the USSR draft as such referred to the Committee on Contributions for consideration, but they would not object to having the resolution, as part of the report of the Committee, go to the Committee on Contributions in that form."

29. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he would not oppose the addition of such a sentence provided that it was stated that the Soviet delegation's view had been shared by other Member States.

30. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) proposed that the words "for the Soviet delegation and several other delegations" should be inserted after the words "on the understanding".

31. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) accepted that proposal.

32. Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia) said that the second sentence in paragraph 11 failed to mention certain factors which the Committee on Contributions should take into account, i.e., the expert studies undertaken by the Secretariat and the information transmitted by Member States. Moreover it was incorrect to state that "the Committee on Contributions would undoubtedly be the first to recognize that corrections should be made", since in making such corrections, that Committee would simply be acting on its terms of reference and in no sense making a voluntary concession. He therefore proposed that the sentence in question should be amended to read as follows: "The Committee agreed unanimously that if, as a result of further expert studies and information from Members, injustices were revealed, the Committee on Contributions should recommend to the eighteenth session of the General Assembly possible revisions in the scale of assessments as may appear warranted."

33. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) said that, while he had no objection to the other changes proposed by the Czechoslovak representative, the Rapporteur had already agreed to amend the second sentence in paragraph 11 as suggested by the United Kingdom delegation. Furthermore the new proposed text, unlike that proposed by his delegation, did not express confidence in the Committee on Contributions. Again, he saw no need to incorporate part of the draft resolution into the report.

34. Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia) pointed out that the resolution in question had been adopted unanimously. It was one thing to provide directives for the Committee on Contributions and quite another merely to express hope or confidence.

35. Mr. HODGES (United Kingdom) proposed that the second sentence in paragraph 11 should be replaced by the following: "The Committee agreed unanimously that if, as a result of further expert studies and of information from Member States, adjustments seemed

warranted, the Committee on Contributions could be relied upon to recognize that these should be made, and that the Committee should be requested to report to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session with any recommendations concerning possible revisions in the scale of assessments as may seem warranted."

36. Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia) said that the text proposed by the United Kingdom representative was wholly acceptable to his delegation.

37. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to paragraph 3 of the draft report, which stated that tribute had been paid by many delegations to the conscientious way in which the Committee on Contributions had done its work and to the impartiality and objectivity with which it had always carried out its task of establishing the United Nations scale of assessments, proposed that the paragraph should be either deleted outright or supplemented by the words "whereas other delegations objected to such an evaluation of the work of the Committee on Contributions".

38. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) opposed the deletion of paragraph 3. If the addition proposed by the USSR representative was accepted, he would request that the beginning of the fourth sentence in paragraph 8 should be amended to read as follows: "It was regretted that it had not been possible, because of the failure of the USSR to co-operate, to establish the proposed group...".

39. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he hoped that the United States representative would not press that proposal. The Secretariat could obtain from the countries with planned economies ample documentation and all the statistics desired, and transmit them to the Committee on Contributions.

40. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) said that he was prepared to replace the word "co-operate" by the word "participate", but would maintain his amendment so long as the Soviet Union pressed for the inclusion of a passage which would cast doubt upon the impartiality and objectivity of the Committee on Contributions.

41. Mr. QUAO (Ghana), Rapporteur, drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 4 of the draft report, which set forth the views of those delegations which had not accepted the conclusions of the Committee on Contributions.

42. Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia) recalled that the discussion on the scale of assessments had ended on a note of agreement and understanding. If the United States representative maintained his amendment, he would be very regretfully obliged to reopen the discussion.

43. Mr. SOKIRKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thanked the Rapporteur for drawing his attention to paragraph 4 of the draft report. In a spirit of compromise, he would merely propose that the words "It was regretted" at the beginning of the fourth sentence in paragraph 8 should be replaced by the words "Some delegations regretted".

44. Mr. BENDER (United States of America) accepted that proposal.

*The draft report (A/C.5/L.781), as amended, was adopted.*

**COMPLETION OF THE COMMITTEE'S WORK**

45. The CHAIRMAN said that, at the end of a session of discussions marked by a desire to reach unanimous decisions and by a spirit of mutual understanding, he wished to thank the members of the Committee for the courtesy and goodwill they had shown him; he also thanked the Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Controller, the Secretary of the Fifth Committee and the members of the Secretariat for their devotion to duty and their co-operation.

46. Mr. NOLAN (Ireland), Mr. KITTANI (Iraq), Mr. DIEZ DE MEDINA (Bolivia), Mr. KRAFT (Denmark), Mr. SANU (Nigeria), Mr. MALHOTRA (Nepal), Mr. MYSLIL (Czechoslovakia), Mr. MHEDHEBI (Tunisia), Mr. HASRAT (Afghanistan), Mr. BOUDJAKDJI (Algeria) and Mr. BENDER (United States of America),

speaking on behalf of their own and other delegations, paid a tribute to the great competence with which the Chairman had directed the Committee's proceedings, and extended their thanks to the Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur, the Chairman and members of the Advisory Committee, the Controller, the representatives of the Secretary-General and all members of the Secretariat who had assisted the Committee in its work.

47. Mr. AGHNIDES (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) and Mr. QUAO (Ghana), Rapporteur, thanked the Committee for the kind words which had been addressed to them.

48. The CHAIRMAN declared the work of the Fifth Committee concluded.

The meeting rose at 1.50 p.m.