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Agenda item 136

FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS TRANSITION ASSISTANCE GROUP

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Etien NINOV (Bulgaria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-fourth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.
2. The Fifth Committee considered agenda item 136 at its 56th and 58th meetings, on 14 and 18 December 1989. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (A/44/856) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/44/875).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/44/L.13

3. At the 58th meeting, on 18 December, the Chairman introduced draft resolution A/C.5/44/L.13, entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group".
4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/44/L.13 without a vote (see para. 6 below).
5. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (see A/C.5/44/SR.56 and 58).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989,

Reaffirming the direct and legal responsibility of the United Nations for Namibia until independence, as indicated in its resolution 2145 (XXI) of 27 October 1966 and its subsequent relevant resolutions on the question of Namibia,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Transition Assistance Group for a period of up to twelve months, as well as Council resolutions 629 (1989) of 16 January 1989 and 632 (1989) of 16 February 1989,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Taking note, in particular, of paragraphs 9 and 10 of the report of the Secretary-General 1/ and paragraphs 10, 12, and 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Recognizing that the costs of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group are expenses of the Organization to be borne by Member States in accordance with Article 17, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such an operation,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group,

1/ A/44/856.

2/ A/44/875.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Transition Assistance Group with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that, as mentioned in paragraph 7 of the report of the Secretary-General, 1/ assessments totalling approximately 94.6 million United States dollars remain uncollected,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the United Nations Transition Assistance Group,

1. Concurs with the observations, recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/
2. Urges all Member States to pay their assessed contributions to the United Nations Transition Assistance Group in full and on time;
3. Approves the request of the Secretary-General that he proceed with the disposition of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group property upon completion of the mandate in the manner set out in paragraph 4 of annex III to his report 1/ and paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/
4. Decides that the costs associated with the liquidation of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group and the closing of the accounts, amounting to 6,469,000 dollars gross (5,625,000 dollars net), be met from the appropriations made available by the Assembly in its resolution 43/232;
5. Also decides, taking into account the outstanding assessed contributions due to the Special Account of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group, to defer any further action on the estimated unencumbered balance of the appropriations as may be called for until its forty-fifth session;
6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Transition Assistance Group is administered with the maximum of efficiency and economy, bearing in mind the relevant observations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group";
8. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, a detailed performance report on the budget of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group, in accordance with the observations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report and, in particular, in paragraphs 7 and 8 thereof. 2/