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BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1960

Revised estimates under section 4 resulting from the adoption of General Assembly resolution 1352 (XIV) regarding the organization of the plebiscite in the southern part of the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration

Twentieth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session

1. In reporting on the financial implications of the draft resolution proposed by the Fourth Committee (A/4240, para. 12) regarding the organization of the plebiscite in the southern part of the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions stated (A/4242, para. 4) that it would give detailed consideration to the actual revisions to be made in the 1960 estimates, when such formal revisions were submitted by the Secretary-General after the General Assembly had taken action on the proposal of the Fourth Committee. Meanwhile, the Advisory Committee recommended that the Fifth Committee should advise the General Assembly that the adoption of the draft resolution proposed by the Fourth Committee would result in the expenditure on the two plebiscites, previously estimated at \$169,500 (\$110,000 in 1959 and \$59,500 in 1960), being increased to an amount not exceeding \$255,100 (\$86,700 in 1959, \$106,700 in 1960 and \$61,700 in 1961).
2. The draft resolution proposed by the Fourth Committee was adopted by the General Assembly at its 829th plenary meeting held on 16 October 1959 (resolution 1352 (XIV)).

3. The Advisory Committee understands that the Secretary-General's statement of financial implications (A/C.5/789) also constitutes a formal submission for appropriate revision of the 1960 budget estimates. The Committee has accordingly examined the Secretary-General's proposal that the amount of \$59,500 already included in section 4, chapter VI, of the 1960 estimates should be increased by \$47,200 to a revised amount of \$106,700.
4. The revised estimate of \$106,700 for 1960 includes three main elements of expenditure: salaries and wages (\$29,000), including provision for the Plebiscite Commissioner at Under-Secretary level; travel and subsistence (\$55,900) and local transportation and other miscellaneous costs (\$21,800).
5. The provision for the Plebiscite Commissioner is based on the existing contractual arrangements which extend until 31 December 1960, at which time an extension of his contract into 1961 will become necessary, having regard to the new time-table for the plebiscite in the southern part of the Trust Territory. Although the additional cost of the extension will arise only in 1961, the renewal of the Plebiscite Commissioner's contract will probably be done towards the close of 1960. The Advisory Committee would hope that the arrangements governing the renewal would reflect the amount of time that would be needed for the subsequent phase of the work of the Plebiscite Commissioner.
6. The estimate of \$55,900 for travel and subsistence is based on a precise calculation of the costs in question. On the other hand, the estimates for local transportation and other services and supplies are somewhat less precisely arrived at and may prove susceptible of some economy. The Advisory Committee trusts that those costs will be kept to a strict minimum, regardless of the amount of the budgetary provision.
7. Subject to the foregoing observations, the Advisory Committee recommends that the amount of \$59,500 already included in section 4, chapter VI, of the 1960 estimates should be increased by \$47,200 to a revised amount of \$106,700, as proposed by the Secretary-General.
