



Seventeenth session  
Agenda item 72

## UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. N.A. QUAO (Ghana)

1. At its 960th meeting, on 5 December 1962, the Fifth Committee discussed agenda item 72 concerning the United Nations International School, basing its consideration on reports of the Secretary-General (A/5308) and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/5319).
2. A draft resolution on the subject was submitted jointly by the delegations of Argentina, Ceylon, Denmark, France, Ghana, India, Lebanon, Poland, and the United States of America (A/C.5/L.762).<sup>1/</sup>
3. Members were unanimous in voicing appreciation of the successful efforts made by the Secretary-General and the Board of Trustees of the School in finding a site for the School's permanent premises and in making arrangements for raising the voluntary funds necessary for the building of the new School and for the endowment fund that would enable the School to operate independently at the end of the five-year term during which the General Assembly had decided to contribute to its expenses. They also recorded their gratitude to the officials of the State and City of New York for all they had done for the International School.
4. One delegation considered it undesirable in principle to use the regular budget of the United Nations for financing an independent school or for subsidizing the education of a large number of the School's pupils who were children of members of missions or delegations to the United Nations. The Board

<sup>1/</sup> The text of the draft resolution was identical with that appearing in paragraph 8 of the present report.

of Trustees, which had done excellent work in 1962, should make every effort to reduce the operational deficit before the expiry of the five-year period mentioned in General Assembly resolution 1439 (XIV) of 5 December 1959. Beyond that period, the Board could not expect to receive assistance from the United Nations budget. In the opinion of this delegation, the United Nations contribution to the School's operational costs in 1963 should be \$45,000 rather than the \$50,000 mentioned in the draft resolution, on the ground that the estimated deficit for 1963 was much lower than that of the previous year, for which a contribution of \$50,000 had been made. The United Nations contribution should not cover the whole deficit, and as the five-year period was drawing to a close, the Board should place progressively less reliance on that source of income. Similarly, the figure of \$20,000 proposed in the draft resolution for the contribution towards the legal and architectural expenses involved in the planning of the new School building appeared excessive; \$15,000 would be a more reasonable sum.

5. Some delegations, while endorsing the objection of principle to the financing of an independent school from the regular budget, were prepared to vote for the draft resolution. Great progress had been made in reducing the School's operating deficit, and there was reason to believe that it would soon be unnecessary for the United Nations to provide financial assistance. It was also understood that substantial gifts could be anticipated from other sources.

6. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees thanked the Committee for the tributes paid to the Board on its report and on the results it had achieved during the past year. She also acknowledged with gratitude the continuous assistance which both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the officials of the State and City of New York had so generously given to the International School. It had been possible to keep the expenditure related to the planning of the School's new building within the limits of the 1962 grant partly because, in some cases, lawyers and architects had given their services free of charge.

#### Decision of the Committee

7. The joint draft resolution (A/C.5/L.762) was approved unanimously.

Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

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

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, together with the report of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations International School,<sup>1/</sup> and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly on this subject,<sup>2/</sup>

Noting the action taken by the Secretary-General and the Board of Trustees to locate a site for the permanent school, to raise funds from voluntary sources to acquire the site, and to build the new School,

Noting further the progress made in reducing the operating deficit of the School,

Nothing also the growing demand for places in the School and its role in the recruitment and retention of qualified personnel for the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 1439 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 by which the General Assembly decided to contribute to the International School Fund for a period of five years such continuing financial assistance as the Assembly might consider necessary and its subsequent resolutions 1591 (XV) of 20 December and 1727 (XVI) of 20 December 1961 contributing grants to liquidate the operational deficit and to begin planning for the permanent accommodation of the School;

1. Expresses its appreciation to the Mayor and City of New York for continuing co-operation in the location of a site for the permanent school and in extending the availability of present temporary premises;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his good offices to assist the Board of Trustees in raising the additional funds required from voluntary sources for the construction of the permanent school and the creation of an endowment fund;

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<sup>1/</sup> A/5308.

<sup>2/</sup> A/5319.

3. Decides to contribute \$50,000 to the International School Fund towards liquidating the operational deficit anticipated for the current school year;

4. Decides to contribute \$20,000 to the International School Fund for the purpose of forwarding plans for the permanent accommodation of the School.

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