



Eighteenth session  
Agenda item 58

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1964

Financial implications relating to the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/5446 and Add.1-4)

Thirty-first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered document A/C.5/999 containing a statement of the financial implications arising from certain recommendations presented in the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/5446 and Add.1-4), which the Secretary-General has submitted in accordance with rule 154 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.
2. In paragraphs 57-59 of its report, the Special Committee, after drawing the attention of the General Assembly "to the need for making the necessary budgetary provisions to cover the expenses arising from its activities including the expenses of visiting missions", has made a specific request that such provision be made in the 1964 budget. At the same time the Special Committee has expressed its inability to provide in advance exact details of its requirements since decisions concerning visiting missions are taken "in the course of its examination of the conditions in each Territory".
3. In this situation, the Secretary-General states that he finds it difficult to submit any precise estimate of the budgetary requirements to meet the expenses of

visiting groups or other activities which the Special Committee may decide upon in 1964, but that he has prepared a tentative estimate of requirements based on the future work of the Special Committee, as mentioned in paragraphs 44-56 of its report.

4. Attention should be called to the fact that, in preparing this estimate, the Secretary-General has made certain assumptions concerning the activities of the Special Committee in 1964. These are as follows:

(a) It is assumed that all meetings of the Special Committee itself will be held at Headquarters, and that the Special Committee will take into account the limited conference facilities available next year in scheduling its programme of meetings;

(b) The preliminary list of territories coming within the mandate of the Special Committee (A/5446, annex I) contains sixty-four territories, of which twenty-one have been dealt with by the Special Committee in 1963. The remaining territories to which the Declaration applies will be considered as a matter of priority in 1964. In addition, the Special Committee may also continue to examine the implementation of the Declaration in respect of the territories it has already dealt with in 1963. Thus it would appear that, in 1964, the Special Committee may examine the situation in the Territories within four broad regions of the world, namely Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle East and the Pacific;

(c) The Special Committee may therefore decide to send a sub-committee or visiting group to each of the four regions mentioned above;

(d) Based on previous experience, each such visiting sub-committee or group might consist, on an average, of five representatives and a secretariat of four staff members, including an interpreter;

(e) Although the duration of each visit may vary, an average of two weeks for each one might be used for estimating purposes.

5. On this basis, the total requirements in 1964 for carrying out the activities of the Special Committee might, according to the Secretary-General, be tentatively estimated at \$67,500, and he has proposed an appropriation of \$60,000 under chapter VIII of section 18 of the 1964 budget.

Comments and recommendation of the Advisory Committee

6. The Advisory Committee appreciates the fact that, pending the determination by the Special Committee of a detailed work programme covering its activities during 1964, the Secretary-General is unable to provide a precise estimate of the level of expenditure to be incurred and he can only be guided by the broad terms of paragraphs 44-56 of the Special Committee's report.

7. Last year, the General Assembly decided, upon the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, that the expenditure of the Special Committee should be provided for under the resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. This year, the expenditure experience of the Special Committee in 1963 is available. Further, the Advisory Committee continues to hold the view that an attempt should be made to avoid supplementary estimates to the extent possible. The Advisory Committee would therefore recommend that some provision should be made in the 1964 budget and that any additional requirements should be met under the resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. As to the specific amount of the budgetary provision, the Committee believes that a figure of the order of the actual expenditure in 1963, namely some \$30,000, would prove reasonable.

8. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends to the Fifth Committee that it inform the General Assembly as follows: should the Assembly approve the recommendations contained in paragraphs 57-59 of the report of the Special Committee, an additional appropriation of \$30,000 should be made at this time under section 18, chapter VIII, of the 1964 budget to cover expenses of the Special Committee. Since, however, this provision is, of necessity, based on certain broad assumptions, the Secretary-General should be authorized, to the extent that actual requirements might exceed \$30,000, to meet such additional requirements under the terms of paragraph 1 of the resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for 1964.