

UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/9450  
17 December 1973

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-eighth session  
Agenda item 79

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975  
AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1974-1977

Report of the Fifth Committee (Part I)

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernesto C. GARRIDO (Philippines)

1. Under agenda item 79, the Fifth Committee considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975. The Committee recommends a gross appropriation of \$ and an estimate for income (other than income derived from staff assessment) of \$ . The net expenditure for the biennium 1974-1975 is thus estimated at \$ .
2. As regards the Working Capital Fund, the Committee recommends that the Fund should be maintained for the biennium 1974-1975 at the level of \$40 million.
3. The Committee also recommends an estimate of \$ as staff assessment for transfer in the course of the biennium 1974-1975 to the Tax Equalization Fund from which credits are distributed to Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955.
4. For its examination of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, the Committee had before it, as basic documents, the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 and the medium-term plan for the period 1974-1977 submitted by the Secretary-General, 1/ as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. 2/ Revised estimates for various appropriation sections were considered on the basis of subsequent reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/9006) and Supplement No. 6 A (A/9006/Add.1).

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/9008).

GENERAL DEBATE

5. The introduction of the new form of presentation of the regular budget of the United Nations, the biennial budget cycle and the medium-term plan, were widely commented upon during the general debate on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975.

6. There was also a general preoccupation with the level of the Secretary-General's estimates for the biennium and with the adverse effects on those estimates resulting from recent currency instability.

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975  
and the medium-term plan for the period 1974-1977

7. Those delegations taking part in the general debate were generally in agreement with the observations of the Secretary-General in his foreword to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 to the effect that the new presentation should be considered within the context of transition from one basic budgeting technique to another. They agreed also with the comments of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) that although far from perfect, the new form of presentation represented an important first step towards the achievement of an integrated programme, planning and budgeting system. For the first time a serious effort had been made to link programmes to financial resources, and Member States could obtain in a single document a broad and comprehensive appreciation of the activities of the United Nations as a whole with informative material of a quality and kind upon which they could take informed decisions on resource allocation. The new form of presentation, in spite of its deficiencies, represented a good foundation for the development of a more meaningful resource management system within the Organization.

8. A number of delegations, however, emphasized that the Organization would not be in a position to obtain the full benefit from the new system until the Secretary-General had remedied the imperfections in this first effort. The comments made by delegations with regard to the various shortcomings of the new presentation were guided mainly by the conclusions of CPC in paragraphs 17 to 25 of its report on its fourteenth session, 3/ which were subsequently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1801 (LV), by the views expressed during the fifty-fifth session of the Economic and Social Council, by the observations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 18 to 22 of its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, 4/ and by the comments of the Secretary-General in his foreword to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975. 5/

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3/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12 (E/5364).

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/9008).

5/ Ibid., Supplement No. 6 (A/9006).

9. It was generally recognized that the new format was not a true programme budget but rather a budget based on organizational units. Moreover, it was noted that the presentation by organizational units was incomplete since the indirect costs relating to them appeared under separate sections of the budget.

10. The inclusion for the first time of information on extrabudgetary resources in the budget proposals was considered as an important element in determining the availability of resources and was welcomed by a number of delegations. Some delegations, however, concurred in the observations of CPC and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that in future budgets more information should be presented on extrabudgetary activities and on the source of extrabudgetary resources. One delegation was of the opinion that along with the gradual institution of a well-conceived programme budgeting system, a co-ordinated presentation of estimates of programme costs for the relevant period for the United Nations system as a whole could be developed.

11. One major short-coming of the new budget presentation, in the view of some delegations, was the way in which the estimates had been arrived at. The Secretary-General, in his foreword to the proposed programme budget, stated that due to certain circumstances and for practical reasons it had not proved possible to prepare his estimates starting from a "hypothetical zero base". Instead, the approach used was a pragmatic one which assumed the continuation of most activities that had been approved to date and the projection of the related requirements in the immediate future with reference to current and expected spending trends. The delegations commenting on this "incremental" approach expressed the hope that it would be possible for the Secretary-General, in preparing the programme budget for the next biennium, to undertake a careful and critical analysis of all existing programmes in order to eliminate those of lowest priority and to consider the possible redeployment of resources.

12. Several delegations agreed with the observations of CPC that there was need for a more precise definition of objectives than had been given in the proposed programme budget. The programme objectives had been described in too general and uneven terms and were often not directly related to specific legislative authority. It was also observed that insufficient attention seemed to have been given to the development of an effective system of evaluation and that, by and large, attention had been focused more on organizational inputs rather than on the outputs of programmes.

13. The Committee for Programme and Co-ordination recommended that priorities should be stated in a more orderly manner giving the weight of each programme and programme component in relation to the other in order to permit the selection of the most important priorities consistent with expected available resources. Some delegations emphasized that the identification and reassessment of priorities was the prerogative of Member States rather than the responsibility of the Secretary-General. Another delegation, although recognizing the setting of priorities to be the task of Member States through the appropriate intergovernmental body, expressed the opinion that this was not inconsistent with the fact that the new presentation contained implicit priorities based on weight in terms of relative financial resources allocated to any given programme and thus allowed for a more informed judgement on the part of Member States as to whether these implicit priorities did in fact represent the various objectives they had accepted. Other delegations stressed that priority should be given in all cases to the most important and urgent problems involving the interests of the international community as a whole.

14. Many delegations called attention to the recommendation of CPC to the effect that alternative means of accomplishing objectives needed to be examined and presented in order to allow legislative bodies to endorse the most rational programme choices. One delegation, however, expressed the view that alternative courses of action may not always be as interchangeable as the recommendation of CPC implied and that since the Secretariat was better equipped to perform such a function, the responsibility to carry it out should remain with the Secretary-General.

15. In paragraph 16 of its first report on the proposed programme budget, <sup>6/</sup> the Advisory Committee reiterated the observation it had made at the twenty-seventh session of the General Assembly that a fresh look at the existing machinery of intergovernmental and expert organs concerned with formulating, reviewing and approving programmes and budgets needed to take place but that such a reassessment should be made only after experience had been gained from the initial programme budget. Some delegations, however, were of the opinion that if full advantage was to be taken of the new system a solution to the problem of intergovernmental machinery for reviewing the programme and budget should be found without delay. One delegation expressed the view that since the largest portion of the Organization's human and financial resources was absorbed by activities in the economic, social and human rights fields the Economic and Social Council was the best forum where Member States could assert their legislative will as to which were the priority objectives of the Organization at a given time and which were the best means of attaining them. Other delegations concurred in this view and expressed the hope that the Council would be strengthened in order to allow it to play more fully its role under the Charter as the central policy-making and co-ordinating organ of the United Nations system in the economic, social and human rights fields. Some delegations recalled a proposal considered by the Council at its fifty-sixth session whereby a decision would be taken to establish a standing body of independent experts, selected in much the same way as the members of the Advisory Committee, for the purpose of strengthening the roles of both the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in their examination of the over-all programmes of the United Nations, its priorities and timing. One delegation observed that a closer link between the distinct programming and budgetary aspects needed also to be established at the General Assembly level and in that respect suggested that the Main Committees of the Assembly be better co-ordinated in order to bring about an integrated planning and budgetary approach. Another delegation, commenting on the need to improve intergovernmental machinery for programme analysis, resource allocation and co-ordination, expressed the view that one committee, subsidiary to the Fifth Committee, would have to be endowed with sufficient authority to enable it to engage the confidence of Member States and at the same time have a close relationship with the Economic and Social Council. In the view of that delegation, the Advisory Committee would be the logical body to have that role, but its composition and character might need to be changed if it were to provide the authoritative leadership in both programme and budgetary matters which was currently lacking in the United Nations.

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<sup>6/</sup> Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/9008).

16. Some delegations were concerned with the comments of the Advisory Committee regarding the lack of full appreciation within the Secretariat of the concept of a modern resources system, and the fact that most programme managers had not accorded the necessary priority to direct participation in the programme budget process. Those delegations were of the opinion that emphasis needed to be given to the reorientation of the staff concerned in order that they might grasp the new concept fully, and that bureaucratic resistance to new methods might be overcome. Some delegations concurred in the suggestion of the Advisory Committee <sup>7/</sup> that in order to remedy the imperfections of the new system, persons well qualified in programme budgeting techniques should be appointed immediately to the two vacant posts existing in the Office of Financial Services which had been provided for that purpose by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session. The hope was also expressed by some delegations that it would in the future be possible for the Secretary-General to adhere to a specific time-table for the examination of the budget documents by the policy-making organs and expert bodies concerned.

17. In its comments with respect to the medium-term plan for the period 1974-1977, CPC stated, and the Advisory Committee agreed, that the plan appeared to be little more than a projection of the biennial programme budget rather than a real plan with precise identification of resources of which the programme budget would be an instalment. It was considered by some delegations that, as a result, the first exercise under the new procedure, in a sense, was off to a false start since Member States would have to decide on the budget level of the coming biennium without the benefit of a well-considered and balanced goal for the two years immediately following the biennium in terms of over-all programmes and their budgetary implications.

18. A few delegations recalled the misgivings they had voiced during the discussion on the budget cycle and long- and medium-term planning at the twenty-seventh session. They believed that the adoption of a biennial budget cycle ran counter to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies <sup>8/</sup> and would be detrimental to the flexibility needed in planning to meet the targets set for the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade. They had maintained that it was premature to adopt the proposed new procedures inasmuch as the necessary planning machinery had not yet been developed in the Organization and had insisted that the proposed new system be adopted "on an experimental basis". These delegations now agreed with the comments of the Advisory Committee regarding the medium-term plan to the effect that events had amply confirmed that the United Nations planning machinery was still "unsophisticated". One of those delegations, although recognizing that it was necessary to allow for a period of trial and error in respect of the new procedures, was of the opinion that it would be advisable to keep the new system on an experimental basis until its present deficiencies were corrected.

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<sup>7/</sup> Ibid., para. 17.

<sup>8/</sup> Ibid., Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80, document A/6343.

19. Regarding the structure and length of the new budget presentation, many delegations agreed with the Advisory Committee that it could be simplified and reduced in size without prejudice to clarity and informativeness; the number of sections could be reduced, some of the lengthy historical material could be eliminated and greater use could be made of tabular and graphic presentations. A more concise presentation would be less costly, less bulky and more effective. One delegation, however, referring to the narrative included in the documents, called attention to the fact that the intergovernmental bodies reviewing the material needed full and detailed information in order to enable them to perform their constitutional function. Another delegation expressed doubts regarding the greater use of tabular and graphic presentations which, in its view, sometimes fell short of providing the required information, particularly when commentaries were needed. It was also suggested by some delegations that the title of part V, which dealt with matters of decolonization, be changed and that it be placed, instead, after part II (see paragraphs 68 to 70 below).

Level of appropriations and staffing requirements  
for the biennium 1974-1975

20. The initial estimates prepared by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1974-1975 exceeded the combined appropriations for 1972 and 1973 by \$82,034,000. When referring to the growth of the budget in the foreword to his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, the Secretary-General expressed the growth for each year as a percentage of the provision for the preceding year, or 12.6 per cent in 1974 and 2.4 per cent in 1975. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, on the other hand, took the view that with the introduction of biennial budgeting a different approach was required and comparing the provisions for the biennium with the combined appropriations for the previous two years, arrived at a growth figure of 19 per cent. Similarly, when making an analysis of the main factors responsible for the growth, the Secretary-General suggested that of the total increase only some 2.4 per cent in 1974 and 0.6 per cent in 1975 could be attributable to programme growth. Some of the delegations commenting on the proposed level of appropriations for the biennium agreed with the view of the Advisory Committee that such comparisons should be treated with caution as year-to-year comparisons were incompatible with the concept of biennial budgeting, and that there were differences of opinion as to what constituted real programme growth. Other delegations expressed the view that the budgets for the two previous years had been prepared on an annual basis whereas the 1974-1975 budget had to be regarded as an indivisible unit and that, therefore, there was no real basis for comparison.

21. Some delegations, referring to the austerity measures introduced by the Secretary-General in 1972, recalled that as a result of such action he had been able to achieve considerable savings and, in their opinion, without detriment to the activities of the Organization. They regretted that he had not found it possible to continue such a policy especially in view of the adverse effects on the budget of recent currency instability and in light of the continuing difficult financial situation of the Organization. In the opinion of these

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delegations, unforeseen expenditure should be absorbed by adjustments within the budget and through the redeployment and rational use of available resources and the reassessment of programme priorities. It was pointed out by some of these delegations that although the rate of growth of the United Nations budget should not exceed the average rate of growth of the national income of Member States, it was, in fact, three times greater.

22. Other delegations, however, were of the opinion that the continuation of austerity measures for too long a period would be detrimental to the Organization. If the growth in the budget were to be measured against the activities of the Organization in the security and economic and social development fields, it was a relatively modest one. It was pointed out by many delegations that out of the total increase of 19 per cent over the budgets of the previous two years, only a total of about 3 per cent could be attributable to growth in substantive activities, and yet a significant and regular growth in resources was essential if the Organization was to fulfil the objectives laid down in the Charter and the requirements of developing countries, particularly in attaining the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade.

23. Some delegations regarded the 1974-1975 budget as a "no growth budget" and reiterated their concern that the adoption of a biennial budget cycle and a planning estimate might lead to the imposition of a ceiling or a fixed rate of growth on the budget. Although they accepted the view that new programmes should replace obsolete ones and therefore not require additional resources, experience had shown that there must be a margin for expansion appropriate to the vital role the United Nations was expected to play in international affairs. The view was expressed that the adverse effects on the budget arising from the currency fluctuations and inflationary advances should be met through requests for supplementary appropriations and not through absorption within existing appropriations.

24. As regards staffing requirements, the Secretary-General, in his initial estimates for the biennium 1974-1975, requested a total of 523 new posts and a total of 95 reclassifications of existing posts. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, on the other hand, recommended a total of 300 new posts; it also recommended that the Secretary-General's request for reclassifications at the D-1 level and below be reduced by 50 per cent, leaving up to the Secretary-General the apportionment of the recommended reduction to the individual sections of the budget. Some delegations expressed the view that the Advisory Committee had not gone far enough in recommending reductions. It was the view of those delegations that, rather than annual increases in the number of staff, what was needed was the assurance of increased efficiency of the existing staff. Commenting on the question of reclassifications, they concurred in the view reiterated by the Advisory Committee that reclassifications of posts should not be primarily for promotional purposes but rather for recognition of increased responsibilities attached to the posts in question, and should ultimately be determined by the needs inherent in the activities of the Organization.

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25. Other delegations expressed some concern over the recommended reductions of the Advisory Committee and feared that such cuts in the requests made by the Secretary-General would effect adversely the ability of the staff to carry out fully and efficiently their responsibilities in respect of new tasks and the growing activity of the Organization.

Comments on other subjects

26. The various topics commented upon by delegations in their statements during the general debate which were the subject of specific consideration by the Committee at a later stage in its deliberations are dealt with under "Special subjects" in paragraphs 97 to 119 below, or under the relevant agenda items.

Reservations expressed in respect of certain sections of the budget

27. Some delegations expressed reservations regarding the inclusion in the regular budget of certain items of expenditure under sections 5 and 31, including the financing of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea, the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea and the United Nations bond issue, which they considered to be in contravention of the Charter of the United Nations. It was also the view of some of those delegations that technical programmes, under section 19 of the budget, should be financed solely through voluntary contributions and not from the regular budget.

28. Other delegations reserved their long-standing position of principle with regard to section 31 (United Nations bond issue). Those delegations were of the opinion that the financing of the amortization and interest charges on the United Nations bonds should be based on a special scale of assessment, taking into account the interests of developing countries, rather than on the scale of assessment established for the regular budget.



CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL QUESTIONS DURING FIRST READING

Section 1. Policy-making organs (the General Assembly  
and subsidiary organs of the General Assembly: Board  
of Auditors)

29. At the 1574th meeting, during the first reading of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, the representative of Ghana introduced the following draft paragraph (A/C.5/L.1113) for inclusion in the present report:

"The Fifth Committee requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to make a study of the desirability of reducing the number of members of the Board of Auditors with a view to achieving the greatest efficiency and economy consistent with a fully effective audit of United Nations activities. The study should take into account the modalities for rotating the membership on a geographical basis. A report on the study should be submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session after due consultation with the members of the Board of Auditors and the Secretary-General."

In so doing the representative of Ghana stated that his delegation appreciated the extremely useful service performed by the Board of Auditors in ensuring the proper keeping of United Nations accounts but was concerned about the escalating expenditure relating to external audit. Referring to a similar observation made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, 9/ he suggested that the Advisory Committee be entrusted with the task of studying the possibility of reducing the number of auditors without sacrificing the effective audit of United Nations accounts; while so doing, it would also take into account the necessity of rotating the membership of the Board on a geographical basis.

30. The Committee discussed the draft paragraph at its 1578th meeting. Some delegations expressed reservations about reducing the number of members of the Board of Auditors and were of the opinion that it would be preferable to ensure that the audit was carried out in a more economical, efficient and effective manner.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

31. Following the acceptance by the representative of Ghana of an amendment orally proposed by the representative of the United States of America, the Committee, at its 1578th meeting, decided, without objection, to include the following paragraph in its report:

"The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should request the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to make a thorough study of the role, organization and functioning of the Board of

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9/ Ibid., Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/9008), para. 1.7.

Auditors with a view to achieving the greatest efficiency and economy consistent with a fully effective audit of United Nations activities. The Advisory Committee should, inter alia, take into account the modalities for rotating the membership on a geographical basis. A report on the study should be submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session after due consultation with the members of the Board of Auditors and the Secretary-General." (see paragraph 120 (a) below)

#### Section 7. Department of Economic and Social Affairs

32. The first reading of section 7 (Department of Economic and Social Affairs) was held by the Committee during its 1578th to 1582nd and 1585th meetings. In addition to the proposals of the Secretary-General in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, 10/ the Committee had before it the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 11/ a progress report on the survey of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs by the Administrative Management Service (A/C.5/1506), the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on its fourteenth session 12/ and the relevant summary records of the Co-ordination Committee of the Economic and Social Council.

33. In the course of the discussion, a number of delegations were concerned that the reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in the proposals made by the Secretary-General for new posts, especially in some of the units of the Department, might have a detrimental effect on certain activities relating to the objectives of the Second United Nations Development Decade which were of immense importance to developing countries.

34. At the 1579th and 1581st meetings, in reply to queries raised by those delegations regarding the possible impact of the reductions proposed by the Advisory Committee on the Department's work programme, the representative of the Secretary-General stated that the Department considered that it could agree to the proposed reductions in General Service staff provided it were permitted to make transfers of posts between sections as necessary. As regards the Professional posts, it could also absorb all the proposed reductions during the first year of the biennium, with the exception of five posts connected mainly with the fields of statistics and water resources. The Secretary-General was, therefore, prepared to accept the Advisory Committee's recommendations on the understanding that, if the work of the Department was handicapped in the second year of the biennium, he would be allowed to make new staffing proposals.

35. At the 1581st meeting, the representative of Kenya introduced the following

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10/ Ibid., Supplement No. 6 (A/9006).

11/ Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/9008).

12/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 12 (E/5364).

proposal (A/C.5/L.1117) on behalf of the delegations of Ghana, Guyana, Kenya, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Sudan and Zambia:

"The above delegations propose that the Fifth Committee restore the reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under section 7 in respect of new posts for the following programmes:

Statistics  
Natural resources  
Ocean economics and technology  
Human settlements."

36. At the same meeting, the representative of Brazil suggested that in light of the explanation given by the representative of the Secretary-General the Committee might reach a consensus in the matter by concurring in the reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee in respect of the Department for the biennium 1974-1975, on the understanding that at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly the Fifth Committee would consider favourably requests for additional posts submitted by the Secretary-General, should such additional posts prove necessary for the implementation in 1975 of the programmes in statistics, natural resources, ocean economics and technology and human settlements. Other delegations endorsed this suggestion.

37. At the 1582nd meeting, the representative of Kenya introduced the following draft paragraph (A/C.5/L.1118) for inclusion in the present report on behalf of the delegations of Barbados, Ghana, Guyana, Kenya, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, the Sudan and Zambia:

"The Fifth Committee has noted the statement by the representative of the Secretary-General that the reductions in new posts recommended by the Advisory Committee under section 7 might possibly affect the implementation of certain programmes in the second half of the 1974-1975 budget period. The Committee therefore, while deciding to accept, in first reading, the amount recommended by the Advisory Committee under section 7, requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Fifth Committee through the Advisory Committee, before the second reading, the recommendations of the Administrative Management Service on the manpower requirements of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs."

38. At the same meeting the representative of the Philippines introduced the following proposal (A/C.5/L.1120) on behalf of his delegation:

"It is proposed that the Fifth Committee amend the reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee under section 7 as follows:

(a) In respect of consultant funds, the reduction recommended should be \$150,000 (instead of \$213,000 as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 7.42 of its report). 13/

(b) In respect of travel funds for the social development and humanitarian affairs programme, the reduction recommended should be \$5,000 (instead of \$15,000 as recommended by the Advisory Committee in paragraph 7.34 of its report 13/)".

39. The representative of the Philippines subsequently stated that he would not insist on putting his proposal to a vote, but would reserve the right to revert to it if necessary during the second reading of the budget estimates for the biennium 1974-1975. It had been the intention of his delegation to stress its concern about the adverse effects which too large a reduction in the Secretary-General's estimates might have on specific activities or projects in the economic and social fields.

#### DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

40. At its 1585th meeting the Committee decided, without objection, to include the following draft paragraph (A/C.5/L.1118), as orally amended, in the present report:

"The Fifth Committee has noted the statement by the representative of the Secretary-General that the reductions in new posts recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under section 7 might possibly affect the implementation of certain programmes in the second half of the 1974-1975 budget period. The Committee therefore, while deciding to accept, in first reading, the amount recommended by the Advisory Committee under section 7 in connexion with the statistics, natural resources, ocean economies and technology and human settlements programmes, requests the Secretary-General to make available to the Fifth Committee through the Advisory Committee, before the second reading, the recommendations of the Administrative Management Service on the manpower requirements of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs."

#### Section 15. United Nations Industrial Development Organization: Second General Conference of UNIDO

41. At the 1610th meeting, in the course of the first reading of section 15 (United Nations Industrial Development Organization), the representative of Iran, on behalf of the Group of 77, introduced the following draft paragraph (A/C.5/L.1143) for inclusion in the Committee's report:

"The Fifth Committee, in reviewing the Secretary-General's estimates for the Second General Conference of UNIDO, felt that the proposed budget appeared to be well below those provided for similar undertakings. It noted, furthermore, that the Executive Director of UNIDO had indicated that the estimates for that Conference were 'tentative and preliminary' at the time of preparation of the budget estimates for the biennium 1974-1975. 14/ Aware of

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14/ Ibid., Supplement No. 6 (A/9006), para. 15.13.

the importance that Member States attach to the Second General Conference of UNIDO as being the highest international forum on industrialization, the Fifth Committee requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures, including the submission of supplementary estimates, in order to ensure the effective preparation and realization of the Conference."

42. In so doing, the representative of Iran explained that the aim of the draft proposal was to reflect the very great importance that the large majority of Member States attached to the Second General Conference of UNIDO.

43. Other delegations also expressed their concern regarding what they considered to be a very low level of appropriation being requested by the Secretary-General for the preparation and holding of the Conference. These delegations stated that they attached great importance to the Conference, which would be taking decisions of far-reaching implications for the future work of the United Nations in the field of industrialization. It was hoped that the Secretary-General would, at the appropriate time, submit a more detailed revised estimate in respect of the requirements of the Conference and that he would take all necessary measures to ensure that it was well prepared and well organized.

44. Other delegations, however, stated that they could not support the draft proposal (A/C.5/L.1143) because they were convinced that the Secretary-General would take whatever steps were necessary to ensure the effective preparation and realization of the Conference without any reminder from the Committee. One delegation could not support the proposed paragraph because it was contrary to its position of principle on the submission of supplementary estimates.

45. In an oral statement before the Committee at its 1611th meeting, the representative of the Secretary-General, *inter alia*, drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 15.13 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 15/ which, he stated, clearly indicated that the Secretary-General had considered from the outset that the estimate submitted for the Second General Conference was tentative and preliminary. If the Secretary-General in the light of any conclusion reached by the Industrial Development Board and its Permanent Committee considered that he should ask for additional funds for the Conference, he would submit such a request to the Fifth Committee at the twenty-ninth session.

46. The various other comments made by delegations in the course of the first reading of this section, as well as statements made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, appear in the summary records for the 1610th and 1611th meetings of the Fifth Committee.

#### DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

47. At its 1611th meeting, the Fifth Committee decided to adopt the following draft paragraph (A/C.5/L.1143) for inclusion in the present report by 57 votes to 12, with 10 abstentions:

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15/ Ibid., Supplement No. 6 (A/9006).

"The Fifth Committee, in reviewing the Secretary-General's estimates for the Second General Conference of UNIDO, felt that the proposed budget appeared to be well below those provided for similar undertakings. It noted, furthermore, that the Executive Director of UNIDO had indicated that the estimates for that Conference were 'tentative and preliminary' at the time of preparation of the budget estimates for the biennium 1974-1975. <sup>16/</sup> Aware of the importance that Member States attach to the Second General Conference of UNIDO as being the highest international forum on industrialization, the Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures, including the submission of supplementary estimates, in order to ensure the effective preparation and realization of the Conference" (see paragraph 120 (b) below).

Permanent headquarters for the United Nations Industrial  
Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International  
Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

48. In an oral statement at the 1611th meeting, the representative of Austria presented to the Committee a brief progress report on the construction of the permanent headquarters of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

49. The representative of Austria stated that work on the project "International Organizations Headquarters and Conference Centre Vienna, Inc." (IAKW), had started in March 1973. The complex, designed by the Austrian architect Johann Staber, consisted of several buildings. Each of the two organizations would have two Y-shaped office towers providing net office space of about 29,000 square metres. Two other towers would accommodate the computer centre, the library, language training facilities, etc. The technical facilities, workshops and restaurants would be housed in a lower building below the office towers. A cylindrical building designed for international conferences will provide 11 conference halls, 47 conference offices and 7 press offices, and sufficient office space could be made available for delegations participating in conferences. The conference building could be put at the disposal of the United Nations for conferences and meetings of its organs as well as for those of specialized agencies, on the understanding that, in establishing the conference calendar, priority would be given to the requirements of IAEA. In addition to the international conference building, the Austrian Government intended to construct a large Austrian conference centre, intended primarily for intergovernmental conferences.

50. The project was of exceptional dimensions and would offer ample opportunity to demonstrate the latest technological achievements. As a result of the use of electronic data processing methods, all work on the project, including actual construction work, was proceeding in as rational and rapid a way as possible. The foundation of the office buildings had been laid and the staircase towers for two of the office buildings should be completed by the end of the year. Work on the foundations of the conference building had started in October 1973.

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<sup>16/</sup> Ibid., para. 15.13.

51. The representative of Austria stated that her delegation wished to assure the Committee that the Federal Government of Austria, together with the municipality of Vienna, would continue to do their utmost to abide by the schedule and to make the appropriate office space available to UNIDO and IAEA as soon as possible.

52. The Austrian Government, in its careful planning of this large-scale project, wished to demonstrate once more its great interest and constant support for the work of the United Nations. As soon as the headquarters building was completed, it would be prepared to provide accommodation for United Nations Secretariat units up to a staff of several hundred persons. The Austrian Government would offer this accommodation to the United Nations under favourable conditions on a non-commercial basis. The representative of Austria emphasized, in that connexion, that smaller secretariat units could be accommodated on a provisional basis even before the headquarters building was completed.

53. Representatives in the Fifth Committee expressed their appreciation to the Austrian Government and to the municipality of Vienna for the efficient manner in which the construction of the permanent headquarters for UNIDO and IAEA had been organized and was being carried out and for their contribution to the efforts being made by the United Nations to obtain suitable accommodation.

#### Section 16. United Nations Environment Programme

54. At its 1587th meeting, when it examined in first reading the estimates proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1974-1975 in respect of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Committee also had before it a report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9068 and Corr.1) in which the Advisory Committee commented on the general procedures governing the operations of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and on its administrative arrangements as well as a related note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1505/Rev.1).

55. In paragraph 6 of the note by the Secretary-General, the Fifth Committee was asked to consider the approval of a draft resolution dealing with the administrative arrangements for the Fund, and to approve the personnel arrangements outlined in paragraphs 10 and 11. In paragraph 7 of the same note, the Committee was asked also to take note of the Financial Rules of the Fund of UNEP as reproduced in the annex to the note.

56. In paragraph 14 of his note (A/C.5/1505/Rev.1) the Secretary-General proposed that the administrative arrangements be reviewed at the end of 1974 and biennially thereafter. In paragraph 23 of its report (A/9068 and Corr.1) the Advisory Committee stated that, in the light of that proposal and subject to its observations in paragraphs 19 to 22 of its report, it had no objection to the recommendations contained in paragraphs 6, 7, 16 and 17 of the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1505/Rev.1).

DECISIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

57. At its 1587th meeting, after a brief discussion, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Adopt the draft resolution contained in paragraph 6 of document A/C.5/1505/Rev.1 (see paragraph 119 below, draft resolution I);

(b) Approve the personnel arrangements proposed in paragraphs 10 and 11 of document A/C.5/1505/Rev.1 (see paragraph 120 (c) below);

(c) Take note of paragraphs 7 and 14 of document A/C.5/1505/Rev.1 (see paragraph 120 (c) below).

Section 17. Office of the United Nations  
Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

58. During the first reading of the appropriations proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1974-1975 in respect of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator under section 17, a number of delegations expressed concern regarding the relevant recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The Advisory Committee recommended certain reductions in the Secretary-General's staffing proposals, and was not able to concur in the inclusion by the Secretary-General in the regular budget of a provision of \$400,000 for emergency assistance, which had heretofore been financed through withdrawals from the Working Capital Fund. The Secretary-General stated that he had asked for the inclusion of this provision in the budget because of the difficulties and delays experienced as a result of using the Fund for this purpose. The Advisory Committee was of the view that, unless and until the General Assembly decided that the United Nations, through its regular budget, had an operational role to play in disaster relief, regular budget appropriations should be confined to the expenses of the Office, and that emergency assistance, in symbolic amounts, should continue to be provided through withdrawals from the Working Capital Fund, as being of contingent character.

59. Those delegations supporting the recommendations of the Advisory Committee maintained that the arguments used by the Secretary-General for using the budget for emergency assistance were not convincing. They believed that what was needed instead was an adjustment in the current methods used so as to accelerate the necessary withdrawals from the Working Capital Fund. They concurred in the view of the Advisory Committee that inclusion of appropriations under the regular budget for assistance to Governments might be interpreted as providing a United Nations operational role in disaster relief. It was pointed out that it was the intent of General Assembly resolution 2816 (XXVI) that the function of the Office should be of a co-ordinating rather than an operational nature. Moreover, some delegations observed, disaster could not be predicted and it was therefore not possible to estimate an appropriate sum. The view was expressed by some delegations that the role of the United Nations in providing such emergency assistance was largely a

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symbolic one and that such assistance should rather be financed by means of voluntary contributions and that, if necessary, a special fund could be established for that purpose.

60. Other delegations, however, could not concur in the reductions recommended by the Advisory Committee, which they considered to be excessive. These delegations pointed out that the Office of the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator had a very important role to play, especially for developing countries where natural disasters struck more frequently. It was also pointed out that when disaster struck it was essential that immediate action be taken and that it was judicious of the Secretary-General to propose the inclusion of the provision for emergency assistance in the regular budget in order to enable the United Nations to act without any delay. The view was expressed that it was not so much a question of the amounts involved but rather a matter of principle. Some delegations expressed the gratitude of their Governments to the Office of the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator for assistance received by them during recent disasters which they had suffered.

61. At the 1588th meeting of the Committee, the representative of the Upper Volta introduced a draft decision (A/C.5/L.1121) to the Committee (see paragraph 64 below) on behalf of the delegations of Algeria, Chad, the Congo, Guinea, Iceland, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, the Niger, the Sudan, Turkey and the Upper Volta. The delegations of the Central African Republic, Dahomey, Morocco, Pakistan, Senegal, Trinidad and Tobago and Tunisia subsequently joined the list of sponsors.

62. In introducing the draft text, the representative of the Upper Volta stated that the sponsors had attempted to take account of all the views expressed on the matter, and that the proposed text represented a desire for compromise on their part since they had been prepared to approve in full the appropriations requested by the Secretary-General.

63. At the same meeting, following a separate roll-call vote, paragraph (b) of the draft decision was adopted by the Committee by 66 votes to 21, with 11 abstentions. The draft text, as a whole, was adopted by 70 votes to 14, with 9 abstentions.

#### DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

64. The Fifth Committee accordingly decided to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Approve the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 17.13 to 17.15 of its report, 17/ proposing a reduction of \$201,000 in the estimates submitted by the Secretary-General under section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, 18/ and request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at

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17/ Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/9008).

18/ Ibid., Supplement No. 6 (A/9006).

its twenty-ninth session if, in his opinion, the reduction made impairs the effectiveness of the Office of the Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (see paragraph 120 (d) (i) below):

(b) Amend the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 17.11 of its report 17/ so as to retain under the regular budget the amount of \$400,000 proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 17.16 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 18/ on the understanding that that appropriation is being made on an experimental basis and that the Secretary-General, in the light of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee, will submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session a report on the alternative methods of financing emergency assistance to Governments in cases of natural disaster (see paragraph 120 (d) (ii) below).

#### Section 18. International narcotics control

65. During the first reading of the estimates for section 18 (International narcotics control) for the biennium 1974-1975, the representative of Venezuela drew the Committee's attention to the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 18.3 and 18.4 of its report, 17/ wherein the Advisory Committee commented on the existence of two different Secretariat units, both concerned with the control of narcotics, and suggested that the Secretary-General should examine the benefits which might derive from modified secretariat arrangements. The representative of Venezuela explained that pursuant to article 9, paragraph 2, of the 1961 Single Convention, the Economic and Social Council had established administrative arrangements for the International Control Board which provided that the Board was to have a secretariat, distinct from the Division of Narcotic Drugs. By its resolution 1775 (LIV), the Council decided to continue these arrangements which, moreover, conformed to the provisions of Article 101 of the Charter. Furthermore, the Plenipotentiary Conference which met in March 1972 to consider amendments to the Single Convention of 1961 adopted a resolution stating that the administrative arrangements were in conformity with the wishes of the Contracting Parties and should therefore be maintained. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs had come to a similar conclusion in its report on its twenty-fifth session, when it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that they were maintained, bearing in mind the nature of the Board's functions and the importance of its enjoying full technical independence in carrying out its function. For these reasons, his delegation considered that the International Narcotics Control Board should continue to have its own secretariat, distinct from the Division of Narcotic Drugs, although this secretariat was an integral part of the Secretariat of the United Nations. His delegation also considered that the Secretary-General, in preparing his report on the subject, should clearly set forth the advantages many Governments found in maintaining the existing system.

66. Other delegations associated themselves with the comments of the representative of Venezuela and emphasized that the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General should in no way encroach on the prerogatives of the International Control Board, which must be guaranteed an independent secretariat in carrying out its functions.

67. Another delegation observed that the Secretariat should examine the question and take into account the concern and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, which had concluded that from an administrative point of view there would be advantage in integrating the two secretariat units. /...

Political Affairs, trusteeship and decolonization

68. At the 1568th meeting, in the course of the general debate on the proposed programme budget for 1974-1975, the representative of Algeria suggested that the title of part V of the budget, "Equal rights and self-determination of peoples", should be replaced by the title "Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization", which, in the opinion of his delegation, would correspond more accurately to the activities described in that section. He also suggested that it would then be logical to insert part V, as amended, after part II (Political and peace-keeping activities) in order to group political activities together.

69. The proposal of Algeria was presented in document A/C.5/L.1115 and was discussed by the Committee at the 1578th meeting during the first reading of the proposed programme budget.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

70. At its 1578th meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to include in the present report the following text, as proposed by the delegation of Algeria (A/C.5/L.1115):

"The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly that:

"1. The title of present part V (Equal rights and self-determination of peoples) in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 should, in future budget presentations, read 'Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization'. (see paragraph 120 (e) (i) below).

"2. In order to keep all political matters together in logical order, part V should become part III, and succeeding parts should be renumbered accordingly." (see paragraph 120 (e) (ii) below).

71. At the 1570th meeting, during the first reading of section 23 (United Nations Council and Commissioner for Namibia), the representative of Ghana, commenting on the various activities dealing with Namibia included under part II (Political and peace-keeping activities), expressed the view that in future budget presentations, such activities should be placed under the part dealing with political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization (see decision in paragraph 70 above).

72. At the 1578th meeting, the representative of Ghana introduced a draft paragraph (A/C.5/L.1116), on behalf of his delegation, for inclusion in the present report which requested the Secretary-General, in future budget presentations, to include the Special Committee on Apartheid, the Section for African Questions and the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa, presently appearing under part II, under the part relating to political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization.

73. At the 1580th meeting, the representative of Ghana introduced a revised draft text (A/C.5/L.1116/Rev.1) which added a second paragraph to the original text and related to the present distribution of functions carried out by existing secretariat units.

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DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

74. At its 1580th meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to include in the present report the following text proposed by the delegation of Ghana (A/C.5/L.1116/Rev.1):

"1. With a view to obtaining a more consolidated view of the appropriations for activities related to decolonization, the Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General, when submitting the proposed programme budget for future biennial periods, to present in the part of the budget relating to political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization the estimates for the following activities, which have been submitted this year under sections 3 and 4:

Special Committee on Apartheid (section 3);  
Section for African Questions (section 4);  
United Nations Educational and Training Programme  
for Southern Africa (section 4).

"2. This is without prejudice to the present distribution of functions being carried out by existing Secretariat units." (see paragraph 120 (f) below).

Section 24. International Court of Justice: emoluments of  
members of the International Court of Justice

75. In the course of the discussion on the estimates proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1974-1975 in respect of the International Court of Justice in first reading at its 1587th and 1589th meetings, the Committee also had before it the report of the Secretary-General, on the emoluments of the members of the International Court of Justice (A/C.5/1515) as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.3 and Corr.1).

76. In its report (A/9008/Add.3 and Corr.1), the Advisory Committee concurred in the increases proposed by the Secretary-General in the level of emoluments of judges of the Court as well as in the proposed increase in pension benefits proportionate to the proposed increase in salaries. The Advisory Committee, however, did not support a suggestion of the Secretary-General in paragraph 11 of his report (A/C.5/1516) that he be authorized to revise judicial salaries annually proportionate to movements of the weighted average of post adjustments (WAPA). It was the view of the Advisory Committee that the formal linking of judicial salaries to an index established for the international civil service would not be consistent with the sui generis nature of judicial salaries.

77. One delegation expressed the view that the question of the emoluments of the judges of the International Court of Justice be referred to the International Civil Service Commission, which would be considering the whole question of salaries, and that the Fifth Committee could then re-examine the question at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly in the light of the Commission's conclusions and recommendations.

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DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

78. At its 1589th meeting, the Committee decided, by 64 votes to 12, with 3 abstentions, to recommend that the General Assembly should approve the conclusions and recommendations in paragraphs 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.3) (see paragraph 119 below, draft resolution II below).

Section 33. Construction, alteration, improvement and  
major maintenance of premises

79. At its 1589th to 1594th meetings, during its first reading of the estimates proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1974-1975 in respect of section 33 (Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance of premises), the Fifth Committee had before it the reports of the Secretary-General on United Nations accommodation in Addis Ababa, Bangkok and Santiago (A/C.5/1510); office accommodation in New York, Geneva and other locations (A/C.5/1511 and Add.1-3); the programme of major maintenance of and improvements to the Palais des Nations, Geneva (A/C.5/1512); and the extension of the Palais des Nations (A/C.5/1518 and Corr.1 and 2). Also before the Committee was the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on office accommodation for United Nations staff at Geneva (A/9164) and the related comments of the Secretary-General (A/9164/Add.1). The comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Question on each of the above reports were contained in the Advisory Committee's third report to the General Assembly at its twenty-eighth session on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 (A/9008/Add.2).

80. In his report on office accommodation in New York, Geneva and other locations (A/C.5/1511), the Secretary-General stated that he had decided to defer final action on the transfer during 1973 of the Division of Human Rights from New York Headquarters to Geneva as had been recommended by the Fifth Committee and endorsed by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session. <sup>19/</sup> The Secretary-General explained that one of the considerations which had prompted him to suggest the transfer at the twenty-seventh session was of a financial nature since after the initial costs of the transfer were offset, there would be annual savings mainly because at that time staff costs were lower in Geneva. However, due to the continuing upward movement in the cost of living in Geneva and the devaluation of the United States dollar in relation to the Swiss franc during 1973, instead of achieving a savings as a result of the transfer there would be additional costs involved in the move and in subsequent years an additional annual cost, based on developments up to July 1973, of \$246,000. Moreover, the transfer of the Division of Human Rights could not in any case be carried out until the latter part of 1973, when the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme would vacate the space reserved for the Division at the Palais des Nations. The Secretary-General had therefore, for these reasons, decided to defer final action on the transfer so as to allow the General Assembly to consider the matter further in the light of the new situation and to decide on the action to be taken.

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<sup>19/</sup> Ibid., Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 73, document A/8985/Add.1, para. 33.

81. In an oral statement before the Committee at its 1590th meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management explained, inter alia, that the sole reason for the conclusion of the Secretary-General in late March 1973 to defer action on the move was the fact that he had given assurances to the General Assembly at the time he had suggested the transfer that there would be savings. In the light of altered circumstances he felt that the responsible thing to do in the interest of the Organization was to return to the Fifth Committee for instructions on how to proceed in the matter.

82. Some of the delegations which did not concur in the decision of the Secretary-General to defer final action on the transfer of the Division believed that he had exceeded his mandate; that it was not within his authority to postpone implementation of a decision taken by the General Assembly without first consulting with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. They expressed the view that such action might set a precedent and urged that immediate steps be taken to ensure the transfer. Some of these delegations pointed out that the economy factor had not been the major consideration in arriving at the decision to move the Division from New York. It was rather a political motivation based on the wider issue of the decentralization of parts of the New York Secretariat. Moreover, it was pointed out, the Secretary-General's decision should not have been motivated by contingencies which might be of a temporary nature.

83. Other delegations, however, believed that the Secretary-General had acted wisely and that he had kept in mind what he considered to be the best interests of the Organization by bringing the matter before the Fifth Committee for further consideration. The financial considerations were weighty and should not be lightly disregarded by the Committee. It was also pointed out that it had not in any case been possible to accommodate the Division in Geneva since the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme had only just recently completed its move to Nairobi. Some of these delegations expressed the view that a division as important as the Division of Human Rights worked most effectively in New York and should not be isolated from other bodies at Headquarters with which its work was closely connected. Moreover, many of the smaller Member States which were active in the field of human rights did not maintain permanent missions in Geneva.

84. It was pointed out by some delegations that although the idea of decentralization was one of the main considerations in the decision to transfer the Division, it did not really constitute the concept of decentralization as interpreted by most Member States which advocated it. They expressed the hope that further decentralization would take place, not by moving units to Europe, but by transferring them to some of the developing countries.

85. Referring to the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1511 and Add.1-3) dealing with the questionnaire sent to Member States on the question of locating offices of the United Nations in other cities, some delegations expressed regret that the Secretary-General had not offered any comments on the replies received from Member States indicating their interest in accommodating such units. One delegation, commenting on relocation of offices of the United Nations, observed that the United Nations could not be an effective institution if its interrelated parts were arbitrarily broken up for the sake of accommodating narrow political interests; facilities and services which already existed should not be duplicated simply for the sake of relocating certain units.

86. Concurring in the comments made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 33.10 of its first report, 20/ some delegations expressed the view that the whole question of construction, alteration and rental of office space was a very expensive one and that it was absolutely essential for the Secretariat to improve the management of construction projects so that they could be implemented on schedule and within the level of funds appropriated by the General Assembly. These delegations expressed their appreciation for the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/9164) and believed that its analyses and conclusions deserved careful study. One delegation considered that the Unit should be requested to study and report to the General Assembly on the question of the use of office accommodation within the United Nations system.

87. Some delegations expressed their concern about the widely used practice of accommodating in United Nations premises personnel financed from extrabudgetary funds, and expressed the desire that the Joint Inspection Unit and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions study this question and present their views to the General Assembly.

#### DECISIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

88. At its 1592nd meeting, the Committee, by a roll-call vote of 62 to 21, with 19 abstentions, decided to adopt the following draft decision (A/C.5/L.1122) which had been submitted by the delegation of Yemen in provisional form, at the 1591st meeting and which was sponsored by the delegations of Algeria, Cuba, Democratic Yemen, Hungary, the Libyan Arab Republic, Somalia, the Sudan, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen:

"The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should take note of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/1511, and requests him to expedite the implementation of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its 2116th meeting to transfer the Division of Human Rights to Geneva." (see paragraph 120 (g) below).

89. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to make certain recommendations to the General Assembly which appear in paragraphs 91 and 92 below.

90. At its 1594th meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to accept for inclusion in its report the following draft paragraphs (A/C.5/L.1123), proposed by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics at the 1593rd meeting, with a small oral amendment suggested by the delegations of Kenya and Argentina:

"1. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should request the Joint Inspection Unit to study the question of the utilization of office accommodations within the United Nations system and to submit its recommendations to the thirtieth session of the General Assembly." (see (see paragraph 120 (h) (i) below).

"2. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit to the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly a report on the measures taken to improve the utilization of United Nations secretariat accommodations in Geneva." (see paragraph 120 (h) (ii) below).

91. At its 1592nd meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Take note with appreciation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on office accommodation for United Nations staff in Geneva (A/9164);

(b) Take note of the comments of the Secretary-General (A/9164/Add.1);

(c) Concur with the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 18 to 27 of its report (A/9008/Add.2) (see paragraph 120 (i) below).

92. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Take note of the reports of the Secretary-General contained in documents A/C.5/1510, A/C.5/1511 and Add.1-3, A/C.5/1512 and A/C.5/1518 and paragraph 120 (j) (i) below);

(b) Concur with the related observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (A/9008/Add.2) (see paragraph 120 (j) (ii) below).

Income section 3. Revenue-producing activities:  
question of a world-wide United Nations lottery

93. At its 1572nd meeting, during its first reading of income section 3 (Revenue-producing activities), the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the responses received on the questionnaire sent to Member States concerning the question of a world-wide United Nations lottery (A/C.5/1509 and Add.1 and 2).

94. In paragraph 7 of his report (A/C.5/1509 and Add.1 and 2) the Secretary-General, in light of the replies received, concluded that pending further consideration of the matter the General Assembly would not wish him for the time being to engage the services of an outside consultant to study the question.

95. Referring to the indication in the above-mentioned report that not enough replies had been received from Member States, one delegation urged that reminders be sent to Governments which had not responded in order that the Fifth Committee could have sufficient information on which to make an informed decision. It was understood that the Secretariat would proceed accordingly.

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DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

96. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1509 and Add.1 and 2) on the question of a world-wide United Nations lottery, and approved the conclusion reached by the Secretary-General in paragraph 7 of the same report (see paragraph 120 (k) below).

/Consideration of section 27 (Office of Public Information) in first reading will be reflected in part II of this report.7

SPECIAL SUBJECTS

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on  
trust funds of the United Nations

97. At its twenty-seventh session, the General Assembly, acting on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, decided to postpone consideration of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on trust funds of the United Nations until the twenty-eighth session. 21/

98. Accordingly, the Fifth Committee discussed this item at its 1563rd and 1564th meetings. In addition to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, 22/ the Committee had before it the comments of the Secretary-General and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme thereon, 23/ the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 24/ and the comments of the Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization. 25/

99. Oral statements were made by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the representative of the Secretary-General at the 1563rd meeting.

100. The delegations taking part in the discussion which followed generally endorsed the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as set out in paragraph 19 of its report. 24/ They expressed their appreciation of the work done by Inspector Macy of the Joint Inspection Unit in the report under consideration which, together with the related documentation before them, served as a valuable guide and provided generally appropriate recommendations for the continued study of the problems involved.

101. One delegation observed that although the new programme budget constituted a major step toward implementing the Inspector's recommendation on the question of presenting budget data on regular and extrabudgetary resources in a more integrated way, the full integration of funds was not yet achieved. This delegation also urged fuller reporting and the establishment of consistent standards so that overhead costs of administering voluntary funds contributed bilaterally could be fully defrayed from the funds themselves.

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21/ Ibid., Twenty-seventh Session, Annexes, agenda item 73, document A/8985/Add.1, para. 41; and A/PV.2116.

22/ A/8840.

23/ A/8840/Add.1.

24/ A/8840/Add.2.

25/ A/8840/Add.3.

102. Referring to the advantage of indicating for each programme the amount of voluntary contributions involved, as was the case in the new budget presentation, one delegation expressed the view that, in future, a more detailed analysis should be given showing the source of funds.

103. Another delegation expressed its support for the Inspector's recommendation that special care should be taken to ensure the continuation of the present policy of using trust funds only for projects and programmes independently agreed to by United Nations organizational units and developing countries and not for those dictated by a donor country as a condition for making a contribution.

#### DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

104. At its 1564th meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should approve the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 19 of its report 26/ (see paragraph 120 (1) below).

105. The Committee also decided to amend the recommendation contained in paragraph 19 (a) of the report of the Advisory Committee to read "Take note with appreciation of the report by Mr. Macy ..." (see paragraph 120 (1) below).

#### Consolidation of post adjustment in the base salary scales for staff in the Professional category and above

106. The Fifth Committee, at its 1592nd, 1593rd and 1631st meetings, considered the recommendation of the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 10 of his report (A/C.5/1517 and Corr.1) for the consolidation of five classes of post adjustment into the base salary scales for staff in the Professional and higher categories, with effect from 1 January 1974. In his report the Secretary-General, with the agreement of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, recommended the consolidation on the grounds that recent currency developments and the rise in the cost of living had led to a situation in which post adjustments accounted for an inordinately large proportion of take-home pay. Consolidation would reduce the proportion of take-home pay represented by post adjustment as well as the frequency with which changes in post-adjustment classification would otherwise occur. Moreover, while staff with dependants would be only marginally affected, those receiving post adjustment at the single rate (equal to two thirds of the standard rate) were experiencing a considerable loss of the purchasing power of their emoluments, if the latter included a large number of classes of post adjustment. The total cost of the proposal for the biennium 1974-1975 would amount to \$15,146,000 gross, or \$2,690,000 net, after offsetting increased income from staff assessment. The Secretary-General, upon the recommendation of the Expert Committee

on Post Adjustment, also recommended, in paragraph 15 of his report (A/C.5/1517 and Corr.1), that the new base, after consolidation of five classes of post adjustment, would be New York, December 1969 = 100, instead of Geneva, January 1969 = 100.

107. In paragraph 14 of its related report (A/9008/Add.7), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions observed that in paragraph 2 of resolution 2742 (XXV) of 17 December 1970, the General Assembly decided that there would be no further adjustment of the base salary scales for Professional and higher categories until the review called for by its resolution 2743 (XXV) was completed and the results approved by the General Assembly. The Assembly later decided, in resolution 3042 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, to take note of the report of the Special Committee for the Review of the United Nations Salary System and to transmit the report to the International Civil Service Commission, after it had been constituted, for its consideration and recommendations. The Advisory Committee, in paragraph 7 of its report, recognized that it could be argued that the International Civil Service Commission should be given the opportunity to examine the question before action was taken on the Secretary-General's proposal but stated that "the Committee has examined that proposal on its merits in the belief that the General Assembly would not wish to invoke paragraph 2 of resolution 2742 (XXV) after the adoption of resolution 3042 (XXVII)". In paragraph 15 of the same report, the Advisory Committee stated that although it would have liked to see demonstrated more positively and conclusively the urgency of the Secretary-General's proposal, in the absence of compelling reasons to the contrary it did not oppose the recommendation of the Secretary-General.

108. Those delegations which were opposed to the recommendation of the Secretary-General believed the proposal to be premature and inconsistent with the decision of the General Assembly in paragraph 2 of resolution 2742 (XXV). The argument put forward by the Secretary-General for the consolidation, in their view, was not convincing. The Secretary-General's proposal represented one aspect of the entire salary system which the International Civil Service Commission would be studying when it was constituted on 1 January 1974. It was their view that the Fifth Committee was not competent to take a decision on the matter before the conclusions of the Commission on the question were made available to the Committee at the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly. Moreover, it was pointed out, the financial implications of such a consolidation were considerable and should be weighed carefully in light of the difficult financial situation of the Organization. One of these delegations explained that, in its opinion, the present post adjustment system was inadequate, and pointed out that the use of two different methods for calculating the cost-of-living index, as a base and in relation to the post adjustment, was a distorting factor.

109. Other delegations considered the Secretary-General's recommendation to be conservative and based on a sense of fairness to the staff. They considered that to defer action on his proposal until the International Civil Service Commission had studied the question and reported to the Fifth Committee could result in a delay of two years and would be unfair to the staff concerned. It was pointed out that paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/1517 and Corr.1) was sufficient

indication that the Secretary-General and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had considered the question carefully and that the proposal had been put forward in the interest of good administration. Moreover, it was noted by one delegation, the General Assembly, in resolution 3042 (XXVII), had simply decided to transmit to the International Civil Service Commission the report of the Special Committee; it had not referred specifically to the question of consolidation of post adjustment in the base salary scales.

110. Some delegations endorsed the recommendation of the Secretary-General after having received the assurance of the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management at the 1593rd meeting that, if implemented, the proposal would not be applied retroactively, and that if adopted by the Committee it would be without prejudice to the position to be taken by the International Civil Service Commission on the question.

#### DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

111. At its 1593rd and 1631st meetings, the Fifth Committee decided, by 67 votes to 10, with 5 abstentions, to recommend that the General Assembly should:

(a) Take note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in document A/9008/Add.7 (see paragraph 120 (m) (i) below);

(b) Approve the recommendations in paragraphs 10 and 15 of the report of the Secretary-General in document A/C.5/1517 and Corr.1 (see paragraph 120 (m) (ii) below);

(c) Endorse the recommendation in paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.7) (see paragraph 119 below, draft resolution III);

(d) Decide that its decision to consolidate five classes of post adjustments into the base salary scale of staff in the Professional and higher categories applies also to the Secretary-General (see paragraph 120 (m) (iii) below).

#### Electronic data processing and information systems in the United Nations family of organizations

112. The Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on electronic data processing and information systems in the United Nations family of organizations (A/C.5/1513 and Corr.1), as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9008/Add.1) at its 1594th meeting.

113. One delegation expressed the hope that in future reports on this subject the Secretary-General would provide sufficient information about any savings achieved through the use of electronic data processing techniques. It also agreed with the comments of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 14 to 18 of its report regarding the fact that urgent corrective action was needed in respect of the International Computing Centre (ICC) at Geneva in order to improve its efficiency by widening the circle of participating organizations, limiting staff and reducing the number of computers rented. This delegation stated it would be unable to support the staff

increases recommended by the Advisory Committee for the Electronic Data Processing and Information Systems Service in its report (A/9008/Add.1) until the situation with respect to ICC was studied and corrected.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

114. At its 1594th meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should approve the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (A/9008/Add.1) (see paragraph 120 (n) below).

Progress made by the Administrative Management Service in conducting a survey of manpower utilization in the Secretariat

115. The Committee considered the fourth annual report submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1508) on the progress made by the Administrative Management Service (AMS) in conducting the survey of management and manpower utilization in the Secretariat at its 1594th meeting. The related comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions were contained in document A/9008/Add.4.

116. Those delegations taking part in the discussion on this subject expressed their appreciation for the very useful work carried out by AMS in conducting the survey and believed that the Service should be continued as an effective means of improving management within the Secretariat. Some of these delegations were seriously concerned with the comments made by the Advisory Committee in its report (A/9008/Add.4) to the effect that the usefulness of the surveys conducted by AMS was often lost or seriously diminished because of the delays involved in the consideration and implementation of its recommendations, and that the value of its services would be seriously compromised unless it enjoyed the full and effective support of top management throughout the United Nations. These delegations also supported the programme of the Service as outlined in paragraph 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee (A/9008/Add.4), and hoped that the review of the structure and methodology of AMS referred to in paragraph 10 of the same report would be made available as soon as possible. The view was also expressed that AMS could monitor and follow up the implementation of those recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit which had been approved by the Fifth Committee.

117. The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, in an oral statement, replied to several queries raised in the course of the discussion.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

118. At its 1594th meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to include the following text in its report, as proposed by the representative of the Philippines:

/...

"The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly should take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1508) on the progress made by the Administrative Management Service (AMS) in conducting a survey of manpower utilization in the Secretariat, and endorse the observations and conclusions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in its report (A/9008/Add.4). The Committee also recommends that the General Assembly should request the Secretary-General to ensure implementation of those recommendations of AMS approved by him and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session on the progress made by AMS in its follow-up review." (see paragraph 120 (o) below).

#### RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

119. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION I

##### Administrative arrangements regarding the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme

##### The General Assembly

1. Decides that trust funds established by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Rules of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

2. Also decides that, notwithstanding regulations 11.1 and 11.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme shall maintain the accounts of the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and shall be responsible for presenting the accounts thereof, not later than 31 March following the end of the financial period, to the Board of Auditors, and for submitting financial reports to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and to the General Assembly.

/...

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Pension scheme and emoluments of the members  
of the International Court of Justice

A

Pension scheme for members of the International Court of Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1562 (XV) of 18 December 1960, 1925 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963, 2367 (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and 2890 A (XXVI) of 22 December 1971 on the pension scheme for members of the International Court of Justice,

Having considered the relevant reports of the Secretary-General 27/ and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 28/

Decides that, with effect from 1 January 1974 and notwithstanding any provision to the contrary contained in the Pension Scheme Regulations for members of the International Court of Justice, the annual value of all pensions in course of payment as at 31 December 1973, including the pensions of any members of the Court who retire on or before that date, shall be increased by 28.57 per cent and that the maximum child's benefit payable under article IV, paragraph 1 (a), of the Regulations shall be increased from \$600 to \$770 a year.

B

Emoluments of the members of the International Court of Justice

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General 29/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 30/

Decides that, with effect from 1 January 1974, the emoluments of the members of the International Court of Justice shall be as follows:

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27/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 B (A/8406/Add.2), document A/C.5/1364; and A/C.5/1516.

28/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 A (A/8408/Add.1-30), document A/8408/Add.2; and A/9008/Add.3.

29/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 B (A/8406/Add.2), document A/C.5/1364; and A/C.5/1516.

30/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 A (A/8408/Add.1-30), document A/8408/Add.2; and A/9008/Add.3.



(US dollars)

President

Annual salary . . . . .	45,000
Special allowance . . . . .	11,000

Vice-President

Annual salary . . . . .	45,000
Allowance of \$68 for every day on which he acts as President, up to an annual maximum of . . . . .	6,800

Other members

Annual salary . . . . .	45,000
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Ad hoc judges referred to in Article 31 of the  
Statute of the Court

Fee of \$80 for each day on which ad hoc judges  
exercise their functions, plus, as appropriate,  
a daily subsistence allowance of \$43.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Salary scales for the Professional and higher categories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General, 31/ together with the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 32/

1. Decides that:

(a) With effect from 1 January 1974, paragraphs 1, 3 and 9 of annex I to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations shall be amended to read as follows:

"Annex I, paragraph 1 - Salary and allowances

"The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, having a status equivalent to that of the executive head of a major specialized agency, shall receive a salary of \$US 69,800 per year, an Under-Secretary-General shall receive a salary of \$US 55,150 per year and an Assistant Secretary-General shall receive a salary of \$US 49,500 per year, subject to the staff assessment plan provided in staff regulation 3.3 and to post adjustments wherever applied. If otherwise eligible, they shall receive the allowances which are available to staff members generally."

"Annex I, paragraph 3 - Salary scales

"Except as provided in paragraph 6 of the present annex, the salary scales for staff members in the Director and Principal Officer category and in the Professional category shall be as follows (subject to the staff assessment plan provided in staff regulation 3.3 and to post adjustments wherever applied):

"(In US dollars)

"Director and Principal Officer category

"Director . . . . . \$39,030 by increments of  
\$1,110 to \$42,360

"Principal Officer . . . . . \$32,540 by increments of  
\$1,050 to \$38,840

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31/ A/C.5/1517 and Corr.1.

32/ A/9008/Add.7.

"(In US dollars)

"Professional category

"Senior Officer . . . . .	\$28,530 by increments of \$800 to \$35,730
"First Officer . . . . .	\$22,680 by increments of \$710 to \$30,490
"Second Officer . . . . .	\$18,410 by increments of \$600 to \$25,610
"Associate Officer . . . . .	\$14,780 by increments of \$510 to \$19,880
"Assistant Officer . . . . .	\$11,260 by increments of \$460 to \$15,400

"Annex I, paragraph 9

"In order to preserve equivalent standards of living at different offices, the Secretary-General may adjust the basic salaries set forth in paragraphs 1 and 3 of the annex by the application of non-pensionable post adjustments, the amounts of which shall be determined on the basis of relative costs of living, standards of living and related factors at the office concerned as compared to New York. Such post adjustments shall not be subject to the staff assessment plan and their amount shall vary by salary level as determined from time to time by the General Assembly."

(b) In applying paragraph 9 of annex I of the Staff Regulations:

- (i) The amounts of post adjustment for each 5 per cent variation in the cost of living above or below the new base level shall, at all the main headquarters areas and normally at all other offices, be those specified in annex B of the report of the Secretary-General;
- (ii) The base of the post adjustment system shall be changed from Geneva at 100 as of January 1969 to New York at 100 as of December 1969 and in view of the consolidation of five classes of post adjustment in the base salaries the post adjustment indexes at all duty stations shall be adjusted by 100/125 as from 1 January 1974.

120. The Fifth Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

(a) The General Assembly requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to make a thorough study of the role, organization and functioning of the Board of Auditors with a view to achieving the greatest efficiency and economy consistent with a fully effective audit of United Nations activities. The Advisory Committee should, *inter alia*, take into account the modalities for rotating the membership on a geographical basis. A report on the study should be submitted to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session after due consultation with the members of the Board of Auditors and the Secretary-General.

(b) The General Assembly, aware of the importance that Member States attach to the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization as being the highest international forum on industrialization, requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures, including the submission of supplementary estimates, in order to ensure the effective preparation and realization of the Conference.

(c) The General Assembly approves the personnel arrangements proposed in paragraphs 10 and 11 of the note by the Secretary-General 33/ on the administrative arrangements regarding the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme established by General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), and takes note of paragraphs 7 and 14 of that document.

(d) The General Assembly:

(i) Approves the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 17.13 to 17.15 of its report, 34/ proposing a reduction of \$201,000 in the estimates submitted by the Secretary-General under section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, 35/ and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session if, in his opinion, the reduction made impairs the effectiveness of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator;

(ii) Amends the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 17.11 of its report 34/ so as to retain under the regular budget the amount of \$400,000 proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 17.16 of the proposed programme budget

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33/ A/C.5/1505/Rev.1.

34/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/9008).

35/ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 6 (A/9006).

for the biennium 1974-1975 35/ the understanding that that appropriation is being made on an experimental basis and that the Secretary-General, in the light of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee, will submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session a report on the alternative methods of financing emergency assistance to Governments in cases of natural disaster.

(e) The General Assembly decides that:

(i) The title of present part V (Equal rights and self-determination of peoples) in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975 35/ shall, in future budget presentations, read "Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization";

(ii) In order to keep all political matters together in logical order, part V shall become part XII, and succeeding parts shall be renumbered accordingly.

(f) The General Assembly, in order to obtain a more consolidated view of the appropriations for activities related to decolonization, requests the Secretary-General, when submitting the proposed programme budget for future biennial periods, to present in the part of the budget relating to political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization the estimates for the following activities, which have been submitted this year under sections 3 and 4:

Special Committee on Apartheid (section 3);  
Section for African Questions (section 4);  
United Nations Educational and Training Programme  
for Southern Africa (section 4),

on the understanding that this is without prejudice to the present distribution of functions being carried out by existing Secretariat units.

(g) The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 36/ and requests him to expedite the implementation of the decision taken by the General Assembly at its 2116th plenary meeting to transfer the Division of Human Rights to Geneva.

(h) The General Assembly:

(i) Requests the Joint Inspection Unit to study the question of the utilization of office accommodation within the United Nations system and to submit its recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session;

(ii) Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session a report on the measures taken to improve the utilization of United Nations secretariat accommodation in Geneva.

- (i) The General Assembly:
  - (i) Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on office accommodation for United Nations staff in Geneva; 37/
  - (ii) Takes note of the comments of the Secretary-General; 38/
  - (iii) Concurs with the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 18 to 27 of its report. 39/
- (j) The General Assembly:
  - (i) Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General contained in documents A/C.5/1510, A/C.5/1511 and Add.1-3, A/C.5/1512 and A/C.5/1518 and Corr.1 and 2;
  - (ii) Concurs with the related observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report. 39/
- (k) The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of a world-wide United Nations lottery 40/ and approves the conclusion reached by him in paragraph 7 of the same report.
- (l) The General Assembly approves the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 19 of its report 41/ and decides to amend the recommendation contained in paragraph 19 (a) of that report to read: "Take note with appreciation of the report by Mr. Macy ...".
- (m) The General Assembly:
  - (i) Takes note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the consolidation of post adjustment in the base salary scales for staff in the Professional category and above; 42/
  - (ii) Approves the recommendations contained in paragraphs 10 and 15 of the report of the Secretary-General on that subject. 43/

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37/ A/9164.

38/ A/9164/Add.1.

39/ A/9008/Add.2.

40/ A/C.5/1509 and Add.1 and 2.

41/ A/8840/Add.2.

42/ A/9008/Add.7.

43/ A/C.5/1517 and Corr.1.

(iii) Decides that its decision to consolidate five classes of post adjustments into the base salary scale of staff in the Professional and higher categories applies also to the Secretary-General.

(n) The General Assembly approves the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report on electronic data processing and information systems in the United Nations family of organizations. 44/

(o) The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made by the Administrative Management Service in conducting a survey of manpower utilization in the Secretariat 45/ and endorses the observations and conclusions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in its report on that subject; 46/ and requests the Secretary-General to ensure implementation of those recommendations of the Administrative Management Service approved by him and to report to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session on the progress made by the Administrative Management Service in its follow-up review.

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44/ A/9008/Add.1.

45/ A/C.5/1508.

46/ A/9008/Add.4.