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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES ON THE
REPRESENTATION OF STATES IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
recommended by the Sixth Committee (A/9335, para. 11)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernesto C. GARRIDO (Philippines)

1. At its 1614th meeting, on 29 November 1973, the Fifth Committee, in compliance with rule 155 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1556) on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution adopted by the Sixth Committee at its 1438th meeting, on 14 November 1973 (A/9335, para. 11). The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions is contained in document A/9008/Add.15.
2. Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would decide that the United Nations Conference on the Representation of States in their Relations with International Organizations, referred to in resolution 2966 (XXVII), be held early in 1975, at Vienna (paragraph 1). The Assembly would request the Secretary-General to arrange for the provision of summary records to the Conference (paragraph 6), and to arrange for the presence at the Conference, as an expert, of the International Law Commission's Special Rapporteur on the topic of relations between States and international organizations (paragraph 5).
3. In his statement (A/C.5/1556), the Secretary-General submitted tentative estimates of what it would cost to hold the Conference at Headquarters, based on maximum services that might be required, at current rates. He indicated that the estimates were subject to adjustment in the light of conditions and rates that may

be in effect at the time of holding the Conference, and that reductions would be possible in the event that any of the required services could be provided from within existing Secretariat resources, which could only be determined in conjunction with the 1975 calendar of conferences, as approved by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session. The Secretary-General's estimates, totalling \$706,000, comprised \$508,000 for the recruitment, on a temporary assistance basis, of the necessary language staff and includes the travel and subsistence costs of staff recruited internationally, \$56,000 for the reproduction of pre-session and in-session documentation, including summary records, \$134,000 for the printing of the documents of the Conference, and \$8,000 for the travel, subsistence and honorarium payable to the International Law Commission's Special Rapporteur. In view of the tentative nature of those estimates, however, the Secretary-General suggested that no appropriations be made at the current session, on the understanding that more precise estimates would be submitted for that purpose to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session.

4. In its report (A/9008/Add.15), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions indicated that the assumptions used for calculating the costs in document A/C.5/1556 would appear to be the least economical, specifically with regard to costing on the basis of convening the Conference at Headquarters and of recruiting freelance language staff in Europe as well as with regard to the use of New York rates for the printing of the documents of the Conference. With regard to the need for temporary staff, the Advisory Committee had ascertained that, on the basis of the known schedule of conferences and meetings in New York in February-April 1975, all the conference and language staff required could be provided from the regular establishment, although it was expected that several of the permanent bodies which have not yet determined their meeting schedules will in fact require conference services during the period in question. The Advisory Committee considered that, given the lack of machinery for the setting of priorities in the allocation of conference resources, the Secretary-General should have calculated what resources are committed for the servicing of conferences and meetings already scheduled for the period mid-February to mid-April 1975, and should have indicated what can be accommodated within the uncommitted established-post resources, before making projections for outside recruitment. With regard to the estimate for printing, the Advisory Committee noted that, on the basis of European rates, the estimate of \$134,000 could be reduced to \$85,000. The Advisory Committee concluded that, on the basis of currently available information, the estimates related to the proposed Conference should not exceed \$250,000, including a contingency provision of \$100,000 for the possible need to recruit freelance conference staff, \$85,000 for printing, \$56,000 for reproduction (though a lower estimate based on the use of internal reproduction should not be ruled out) and \$8,000 for travel. The Advisory Committee concurred in the Secretary-General's suggestion that no provision for the Conference need be made at the current session of the General Assembly, on the understanding that the Secretary-General would review the related requirements, making maximum use of the regular staff available to him, and would submit detailed estimates to the Assembly at its twenty-ninth session.

5. One delegation expressed its support for the recommendations made in the report of the Advisory Committee, with the exception of that relating to the contingency provision of \$100,000 for the possible recruitment of freelance staff, which it could not accept.

6. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Sixth Committee (A/9335, para. 11), additional requirements of the order of \$250,000 might arise under section 25 of the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, but that no provision for this purpose need be made at the current session, on the understanding that the Secretary-General would review the related requirements, making maximum use of the regular staff available to him, and would submit detailed estimates to the Assembly at its twenty-ninth session.
