



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/9442
12 December 1973

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-eighth session
Agenda items 68 and 79

ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF NATURAL DISASTER AND OTHER DISASTER SITUATIONS

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

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution I
recommended by the Third Committee (A/9398, para. 12)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ernesto C. GARRIDO (Philippines)

1. At its 1619th meeting, on 6 December 1973, the Fifth Committee considered the statement of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1570) concerning the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution I recommended by the Third Committee (A/9398, para. 12).
2. Under operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would authorize the Secretary-General, as an interim measure, to draw on the Working Capital Fund in the amount of \$45,000 for 1974 and \$60,000 for 1975 for assistance to Governments, at their request, in co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system and the League of Red Cross Societies, where appropriate, in the elaboration of national preparations to meet natural disasters.
3. In his statement (A/C.5/1570), the Secretary-General brought the draft resolution to the attention of the Fifth Committee.
4. In its related report (A/9008/Add.20), the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions indicated that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, an additional subparagraph would be needed in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1974-1975 which would read as follows:

"(c) Such commitments made in accordance with operative paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution (XXVIII) of 1973, not exceeding a total of \$105,000 for the biennium, as the Secretary-General certifies relates to assistance to Governments at their request in the elaboration of national preparations to meet natural disasters."

5. During the consideration of this item by the Fifth Committee, one delegation recalled that, following its consideration at first reading of section 17 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, the Fifth Committee had decided to recommend to the General Assembly that an amount of \$400,000 for emergency assistance to Governments in cases of natural disaster be provided, as proposed by the Secretary-General, under the regular budget. For the sake of consistency, that delegation suggested that a provision in the amount of \$105,000 might also be made under the regular budget for assistance to Governments in the elaboration of national preparations to meet natural disasters. Another delegation reiterated its position, as expressed during the consideration of item 68 by the Third Committee, and indicated that it would have abstained if the recommendation of the Advisory Committee had been put to a vote.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to report to the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution I recommended by the Third Committee (A/9398, para. 12), it would be necessary to make provision for this purpose, in an amount not exceeding \$105,000, in the draft resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the budget for the biennium 1974-1975.
