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BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1970

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Gregor WOSCHNAGG (Austria)

1. Under agenda item 74 the Fifth Committee considered the budget estimates of the United Nations for the financial year 1970. The Committee recommends a gross appropriation for 1970 of \$168,420,000 and an estimate for income (other than income derived from staff assessment) of \$9,944,125. The net expenditure for 1970 is thus estimated at \$158,475,875.
2. As regards the Working Capital Fund, the Committee recommends that the Fund should be maintained for 1970 at the level of \$40 million.
3. The Committee also recommends an estimate of \$19,180,000 as staff assessment for transfer in the course of 1970 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 budget proposed for 1970, the Committee had before it, as basic documents, the 1970 budget estimates submitted by the Secretary-General<sup>1/</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.<sup>2/</sup> Revised estimates for various appropriation sections were considered on the basis of subsequent reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee.

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/7606).

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/7608)

General debate

5. During the general debate, in addition to the general preoccupation with the increasing level of expenditure and the precarious financial position of the Organization, there was evident an underlying concern with the direction the United Nations was taking as an organization of international co-operation. This question was considered to have special reference to 1970, the year in which the United Nations would be celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary and making its final preparations for the Second United Nations Development Decade.

Growth of the budget

6. In voicing their concern over the increased level of the budget estimates for 1970, certain delegations felt that budgetary expansion was replacing effective use of available resources. Despite the recommendations of the Fifth Committee during the twenty-third session of the General Assembly regarding the need for economy, administrative costs had continued to rise. The budget estimates for 1970 represented an increase of about 6 per cent over the appropriations for 1969. This appreciable addition did not result from a genuine growth in the substantive activity of the Organization in the performance of its fundamental aim of maintaining peace and security. On the contrary, 60 per cent of the increase was attributable to administrative costs which, year after year, were increasing at a higher percentage rate than that of the total budget itself. This was a fact which a number of Member States, particularly those making the largest contributions, found disturbing.

7. One delegation observed that increases in the regular budget of the United Nations should be considered in the broad context of the continuous budgetary growth of all the organizations within the United Nations system. The aggregate increase imposed a heavy burden on Member States, especially the developing ones. All legislative organs should give careful consideration to their decisions when establishing new organs and new projects, or even when prolonging existing ones.

8. A number of delegations, on the other hand, felt that an over-all increase of 6 per cent gave no cause for alarm, especially since some 4 per cent of the increase was required for continuing the existing establishment and only 2 per cent was allocated for expansion. The budgets of almost all other international

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organizations had grown at a similar or even faster rate. The growth of many national budgets was even more accelerated. The percentage increase of the United Nations budget estimates compared with the appropriations for 1969 was the lowest since 1965. The Secretary-General had made commendable efforts to keep requirements for 1970 within reasonable limits. If the Organization was to continue to respond to the needs of its Member States and to the objectives of the United Nations Charter, some expansion was to be expected.

9. Many delegations expressed their concern at any attempt to impose an arbitrary ceiling on the expenditures of the Organization. In this context many delegations expressed grave reservations about any attempt to privately instruct the Secretary-General on what the level of the budget should be in the present and forthcoming years. Attention was called to paragraph 20 of the Secretary-General's introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization<sup>3/</sup> during the period 1968/1969 in which he stated that the budget estimates were an attempt to reflect, in financial terms, the level of resources deemed necessary to undertake the tasks entrusted to the Organization and that it would seem inappropriate to attempt to control growth in programmes by placing arbitrary limitations on the level of the budget. These delegations observed that the Second Development Decade would be making considerable demands upon the resources of the Organization, and that there should be no rigid financial impediments to its fulfilment of these tasks. In addition to its activities in the economic, social and human rights fields, the Organization should concern itself with the wider issues of the modern age since it was on their solution that the maintenance of peace and security ultimately depended. The most economical and effective use of available resources, rather than the imposition of a ceiling on expenditure, should be the uppermost concern.

10. One delegation suggested that, in order to obtain a proper perspective on the future needs of the Organization, it would be necessary to assess the expansion of the United Nations regular budget in the last two decades in the light of all the determining factors, rather than the increased dollar level alone. There were several complex circumstances which would need to be taken into account, such as inflationary pressures on all currencies, the expansion of various major national governmental establishments, the increase in defence expenditure by the major Powers, the additions to the membership of the United Nations, and the expansion of

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3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1A (A/7601/Add.1).

the Organization's activities and its consequent needs. This delegation suggested that the Secretariat undertake a detailed study of the expansion in real terms of the United Nations budgetary requirements over the last twenty-five years, taking into account the above-mentioned factors and any other relevant circumstances. A number of other delegations supported this suggestion.

#### Financial position of the Organization

11. The Secretary-General's comments on this subject in the introduction to his annual report on the work of the Organization<sup>4/</sup> and in his statement to the Fifth Committee on the budget estimates for 1970 (A/C.5/1233) were recalled with considerable concern by several delegations during the general debate. The Secretary-General had stated that out of a total indebtedness of \$38.8 million under the Special Account for the United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East and the Ad Hoc Account of the United Nations Operation in the Congo \$30.1 million was owed to Governments which had provided contingents and logistical support to the two peace-keeping operations. It was a matter of embarrassment and grave concern to him that settlements of claims for reimbursement to these Governments, themselves financially pressed, have had to be indefinitely deferred. In addition, unpaid contributions to the regular budget as of 31 August 1969 amounted to \$26.8 million, excluding a cumulative total of \$26.7 million which resulted from the non-participation of some Member States, for reasons of principle, in certain items of regular budgetary expenditure and which for all practical purposes had to be regarded as uncollectable. The Organization's cash position rested on borrowings from the Working Capital Fund and from various trust funds, as well as on voluntary contributions. It was not possible for any organization, however great its prestige, to survive indefinitely on so precarious a financial basis. If the Organization were to continue to fulfil its essential programming and servicing obligations some modus vivendi would need to be reached for reducing or refinancing the Organization's indebtedness and for finding a solution to dispute budget items.

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<sup>4/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 1A (7601/Add.1).



12. Some delegations viewed with dismay the precarious financial basis on which the United Nations was expected to survive from day to day. Increased indebtedness and continued reliance on borrowing for the financing of the expenditures of the regular budget and the peace-keeping operations could not continue. The failure by certain Member States to pay their assessed contributions was prejudicial to the good name and credit of the Organization. The existing financial situation could not be allowed to continue if the Organization was to survive and if it was to pursue its efforts towards carrying out the purposes of the Charter.
13. These same delegations stated that if confidence in the United Nations was to be maintained and its prestige protected, the obligations of the Organization to its Member States would need to be honoured. The settlement of debts arising from the two peace-keeping operations was a legal as well as a moral obligation for the United Nations.
14. Moreover, as the Organization approached its twenty-fifth anniversary it was essential that a serious effort be made during the coming year to find a solution to the situation. A consensus should be reached on conflicting interests and principles and the appeal for voluntary contributions in accordance with the consensus adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth session should be repeated and strengthened.

#### Provisional staffing requirements

15. In his budget estimates for 1970,<sup>5/</sup> in addition to his request for 74 additional permanent posts, the Secretary-General requested a monetary credit of \$1,335,500 to provide for 234 provisional posts, \$1,069,500 relating to salaries and wages and \$266,000 to common staff costs. In paragraphs 13 and 14 of his foreword to those estimates, the Secretary-General cited the special and particular circumstances which had led to his request for a limited number of permanent posts. Beyond these he did not consider it prudent to contemplate further increases in the present permanent establishment before filling existing vacant posts and before the results of the current manpower survey were known. At the same time some provision was required to ensure, during what might be considered a transitional period, that important work programmes, particularly

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<sup>5/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/7606).

in the political and economic and social fields, could proceed without jeopardy. Rather than increase the permanent establishment, therefore, the Secretary-General had requested a monetary credit from which to finance, on a provisional basis, the additional staff which were foreseen in the budget estimates as likely to be required in 1970, either in whole or in part, in accordance with the actual needs as they materialized.

16. The Secretary-General stated, further, that he intended to keep strict control over the allocation of this credit and cited the criteria he proposed to apply to its use: firstly, that all organizational units would be required to utilize all existing authorized posts; secondly, where feasible, and bearing in mind the staff survey schedule, no additional staffing resources would be authorized until the organizational unit concerned had been surveyed; thirdly, that any essential strengthening needed prior to the survey would be provided on a provisional basis, pending approval by the General Assembly, in the light of the survey; and, lastly, that, in any event, additional staff would only be authorized up to the level indicated in the initial budget estimates for 1970 for the various organizational units.

17. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in its review of the budget estimates for 1970,<sup>6/</sup> recognized the problems with which the Secretary-General was faced and the reasons which had led him to a temporary departure from the usual procedure of requesting funds on the basis of clearly identified and established needs. It also noted the assurances given by the Secretary-General concerning the measures he intended to apply before authorizing the allocation of any of the provisional posts. In recommending a reduction of \$197,000 in the monetary credit requested, the Advisory Committee stated that it had taken into account the continuing recruitment difficulties of the Organization, the over-all vacancy situation, and the fact that the results of the manpower survey would be likely to have some effect on the staffing situation during the latter part of 1970.

18. In the course of the general debate some delegations stated that they were categorically opposed to any increase in staff over and above the number of posts authorized for 1969. These delegations felt it would have been

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<sup>6/</sup> Ibid., Supplement No. 8 (A/7608).

reasonable for the Secretary-General not to request any increase in staff before the study on the utilization and deployment of staff had been completed.

19. One representative stated that, in the view of his delegation, the Secretary-General's request for a monetary credit for provisional posts posed a question of basic principle. As long as a major survey to determine the appropriate number and distribution of staff was in progress, it was illogical to add more staff. His delegation would require further justification in support of the Secretary-General's proposals, especially in view of the vacancy situation.

20. Another delegation noted that, although it did not favour the credit for provisional posts as a normal method of budgeting, it recognized that the Advisory Committee had scrutinized the proposal carefully before deciding to accept it for 1970, in the light of the limitations which the Secretary-General had placed upon himself with respect to its use. Furthermore, it could understand the circumstances which prompted the Secretary-General to ask for the credit while the manpower survey was still under way and felt that the proposal could be accepted as an exceptional measure to deal with an unusual situation.

21. Several other delegations concurred in the Secretary-General's request for the monetary credit in view of the assurances he had given regarding the strict control he intended to exercise over its allocation pending the outcome of the manpower survey.

22. Some of these delegations, however, noted that in making its recommendations, the Advisory Committee appeared to assume that the manpower survey would result in a reduction of staff. In their opinion this represented a prejudgement of the conclusions of the survey. One delegation observed that approval of the Secretary-General's request would not preclude a detailed reconsideration of the situation after the survey had been completed.

Manpower survey of the Secretariat undertaken by  
the Administrative Management Service

23. At its twenty-third session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, based on a suggestion by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report on the 1969 budget

estimates,<sup>7/</sup> had requested the Secretary-General to undertake a survey of staff utilization and deployment in the Secretariat. In making its suggestion, the Advisory Committee believed that there existed an unevenness in the intensity of the use of posts and that savings might be achieved either by a reorganization of work within the Secretariat or by a redeployment of staff. Subsequently, the Committee on the Reorganization of the Secretariat, in its report<sup>8/</sup> to the Secretary-General, endorsed the Advisory Committee's recommendation and, in somewhat broader terms, linked it to the need for more effective management services within the Secretariat.

24. In his statement before the Committee at its 1299th meeting (A/C.5/1233), the Secretary-General stated that, after taking into account the above-mentioned proposals, he decided to create, on a permanent basis, a new Administrative Management Service directly responsible to the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management.

25. The immediate task of the Administrative Management Service was to carry out the survey of the deployment and utilization of staff. The Secretary-General, in his foreword to the budget estimates for 1970,<sup>9/</sup> explained that the survey had commenced at the time of the completion of the estimates for 1970. An earlier start was precluded because of the lack of qualified staff immediately available and by the need for careful preparation before embarking on so complex a task. The necessary steps had been taken in the early part of the year to secure the necessary staff, partly from outside the Organization and partly by borrowing experienced staff members from within the Secretariat. The Secretary-General was also obtaining the advice of consultants expert in the management field in various countries. On the basis of the progress so far achieved, the survey could not be expected to be completed before 1971. It was the Secretary-General's intention that, after completion of the current survey, the Administrative Management Service should constitute a mechanism for achieving continuing improvements in the administration of the Secretariat.

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<sup>7/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/7207, paragraphs 45-50).

<sup>8/</sup> Ibid., Twenty-third Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 74, document A/7359, paragraphs 60-62.

<sup>9/</sup> Ibid., Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/7606).

26. In the course of the general debate many delegations expressed their appreciation of the establishment by the Secretary-General of the new Service, which was carefully planned to take into account the various comments made in the Fifth Committee during the discussion on this item at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly.

27. A number of delegations, however, were concerned with the fact that a body comprised mostly of Secretariat staff would find it difficult to maintain full independence and objectivity in formulating its conclusions. Some of these delegations felt that the survey should have been entrusted to outside management experts. One of these delegations pointed out that experience in private industry had proved that any type of self-reorganization was extremely difficult; this would be even more difficult in an organization such as the United Nations, given the complexity of its structure and its activities.

28. Another delegation, referring to the survey teams which had been constituted to carry out the basic work of the survey, requested information concerning the qualifications of the members comprising the teams, whether each team had an outside consultant with expertise in modern techniques of management and whether their terms of reference authorized them to recommend major structural changes. This same delegation expressed its gratification on learning that the Administrative Management Service would be directly responsible to the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management. It hoped that it would be staffed with competent personnel who would be able to apply modern techniques of management on a continuing basis throughout the Secretariat, as well as to oversee the implementation of the results of the survey.

29. The Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, in reply to the question raised by some delegations as to why an entirely independent body or an outside commercial agency had not been assigned the task of carrying out the survey, stated that in view of the fact that there were several independent bodies simultaneously engaged in work in the management field at the present time, as well as a number of commercially engaged agents whose services had been requested by legislative bodies, the Secretary-General's decision that the survey be conducted largely by Secretariat staff was not unreasonable. Furthermore, the results of the survey would form, in its long-term



aspect, the corner-stone of the Secretary-General's own management services. This type of built-in machinery to supervise the utilization of resources was not uncommon; most national services and large organizations had such machinery.

30. Regarding the doubts which had been expressed by some delegations as to whether the survey would be sufficiently objective, the Under-Secretary-General stated that experience to date had proved that the survey teams had encountered a large measure of frankness and co-operation at all levels, particularly from the Staff Council.

31. As to the role of the Joint Inspection Unit in the survey, which some representatives had mentioned, the Under-Secretary-General explained that this Unit had been kept fully informed concerning the plans for the survey as they developed. The Secretary-General had advised the Unit that he would welcome its help and advice in this connexion, and senior officials conducting the survey had had many meetings with the Unit to this end.

32. In reply to the questions put by one delegation regarding the principles which had guided the constitution of the survey teams, the Under-Secretary-General stated that these were (a) the obvious requirement of experience in the organization and functioning of the United Nations system; (b) special skills and training in management work and (c) the need for advice from experts who had served their own Governments in the organization and management field.

#### Long-term planning and programme formulation

33. In the course of general debate, several references were made to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies in its second report<sup>10/</sup> concerning the need for an integrated system of long-term planning and programme formulation, especially in the economic, social and human rights fields, based upon the priority needs of Member States. At its twenty-second session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 2370 (XXII) in which, inter alia, the programme-formulating bodies, in consultation with the Secretary-General, were requested to develop their own processes to carry out, at the earliest possible

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<sup>10/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Annexes, agenda item 80 (A/6343).

date, a system of long-term planning and programme formulation within their respective fields of competence. It also requested the Secretary-General to take into account all the actions of the programme-formulating bodies, including the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, in suggesting to the General Assembly at each regular session a planning estimate for the United Nations regular budget for the second succeeding budgetary period.

34. In the view of some delegations little progress had been achieved towards co-ordinating the processes of programme formulation and the establishment of priorities in the economic, social and human rights fields. A more serious effort needed to be made in order to secure the best possible utilization of the limited resources of the Organization. As the United Nations approached the United Nations Second Development Decade it was of the utmost importance to set priorities in the work of the Organization in order to ensure the success of the Decade; only by concentrating on specific targets could this be achieved.

35. One delegation concurred in the views expressed by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in his statement before the Committee at its 1299th meeting (A/C.5/1234), that the reconstructed Committee on Programme and Co-ordination might devote more attention to better methods of establishing priorities between competing programmes in the economic, social and human rights fields.

36. Another delegation observed that, on the question of priorities for example, the process of co-ordination could give rise to conflicts between the various programme-formulating bodies and the specialized agencies. National agencies concerned with various international organizations also suffered as a result of not being duly informed of decisions taken by the General Assembly. In resolution 2475 A (XXIII) the General Assembly had appealed to Member States to ensure co-ordination within their national representation on various organs of the United Nations system. In the opinion of this delegation, ensuring co-operation on the international organization level was dependent upon co-ordination of the related activities of the national agencies.

37. Several delegations looked forward to the first planning estimate, which was to be in respect of the financial year 1971. These delegations emphasized

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that, in keeping with the intent of resolution 2370 (XXII), the planning estimate was intended to be merely a provisional forecast to serve as a guide to programme-formulating bodies, and not as a restriction on the normal expansion of the activities of the Organization.

38. One delegation observed that the introduction of the planning estimate had been accompanied by assurances to some of the developing countries, which had expressed reservations about it, that it would not restrict the Secretary-General in any way and that it would instead serve as an inducement to programme-formulating bodies to commence long-term planning of their activities. This delegation expressed the hope that the first planning estimate would not be discussed in an atmosphere which would cause further division between the developed and developing countries.

39. One way of assuring that the United Nations Second Development Decade would be more successful than the first, in the opinion of one delegation, was to ensure that the planning estimate for 1971 would not be allowed to arrest or slow down the normal expansion of United Nations activities, but would serve to represent a positive contribution in monetary terms towards the fulfilment of the work programmes of the Organization as formulated by the appropriate bodies.

40. Another delegation stated that the planning estimate, in its view, should not be regarded as unalterable and suggested that, ideally, even longer-term plans should be drawn up in the future, based on planning estimates for two-year or even three-year periods.

#### Economic Commission for Africa

41. A number of delegations, in the course of the general debate, referred to the important and far-reaching decisions taken by the Economic Commission for Africa in 1969 during its ninth session which marked its tenth anniversary and had been the occasion for a thorough reappraisal of its role. These delegations believed that the Commission's resources were far less than those needed for it to carry out its objectives and hoped that its financial and staff resources would be substantially increased during the Second Development Decade in order to enable it to expand its activities.

42. One delegation stated that the Economic Commission for Africa had adopted thirty resolutions at its ninth session, most of which would require additional manpower and expanded financial support if they were to be fully implemented. In the view of this delegation, the amounts estimated in the budget estimates for 1970 for the Commission were not adequate for full implementation of even its existing programmes. The needs of the Commission had been demonstrated beyond doubt in the relevant text in the budget estimates for 1970, in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Economic Commission for Africa<sup>11/</sup> and in the deliberations of the Commission itself at its ninth session. In the view of this delegation, the manpower utilization survey of the Commission, when undertaken, was unlikely to result in conclusions fundamentally different from those of the Joint Inspection Unit. Furthermore, the Committee on the Reorganization of the Secretariat, in its report<sup>12/</sup> had reached almost the same conclusions as the Joint Inspection Unit on the general question of the strengthening of the secretariats of the regional economic commissions.

43. In connexion with the manpower utilization survey, another delegation expressed the hope that when the survey team went to Addis Ababa, it would examine the Commission's activities in the light of the decisions reached at its ninth session regarding the institutional machinery of the Commission and the role which the African States expect it to play in the next ten years. This delegation further expressed the hope that the survey would not concern itself mainly with activities in which the Commission was presently engaged but would also take into account the activities which it is unable to carry out at present due to lack of funds and staff resources.

Proliferation of bodies concerned with  
co-ordination and investigation

44. Several delegations, in the course of general debate, expressed concern regarding what they considered to be a lack of co-ordination of the activities of organs having investigatory and co-ordinating functions in the fields of administration, budget and management.

<sup>11/</sup> JIU/REF/68/5.

<sup>12/</sup> A/7359, para. 37.

45. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in paragraph 80 of its review of the budget estimates for 1970,<sup>13/</sup> called attention to the importance of ensuring co-ordination of the work of the Joint Inspection Unit, the Board of Auditors, ad hoc committees of the General Assembly which deal in specific organizational matters, and the Advisory Committee itself. The Advisory Committee had been discussing the question with the Chairman of the Board of Auditors and intended to intensify its efforts to eliminate some evidence of duplication which seemed to exist and which, if allowed to continue, would result not only in a waste of the resources of the organs themselves, but also of the time of senior officials and other resources of the organizations within the United Nations system.

46. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee, in his statement before the Committee at the 1299th meeting (A/C.5/1234), commenting on the proliferation of the co-ordinating and investigatory bodies designed to strengthen and make more efficient the administration and management practices and procedures of the United Nations system, stated that this was a matter of concern to the Advisory Committee and that steps would need to be taken to avoid duplication of effort and unnecessary expenditures.

47. Several delegations concurred in the views of the Advisory Committee. A problem of co-ordination seemed to exist among the very bodies which had co-ordination as their objective. It was essential that these bodies did not work against the very purposes for which they had been established.

48. In the view of one delegation, Member States themselves shared in the responsibility for this lack of co-ordination. At each session of the General Assembly they created new investigatory bodies and then expected the Secretary-General to remedy the situation. As long as Member States continued this unrealistic approach in the allocation of administrative responsibility, it would not be possible to resolve this problem.

49. Another delegation was of the opinion that the lack of co-ordination among the activities of these subsidiary bodies was due to the fact that the Fifth

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<sup>13/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/7608).



Committee itself had not given sufficient attention to the establishment of their terms of reference. It was essential that their activities be carefully aligned and their responsibilities and relationships clearly delineated. In the view of this delegation, the Advisory Committee should examine the problem during 1970, in consultation with the other bodies involved, and present specific recommendations for the Committee's consideration at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly. Other delegations shared in this view and suggested in that respect that the Advisory Committee might make a comparative study of the terms of reference of all the investigating units, whether internal review groups set up by the Secretary-General or ad hoc committees established by the General Assembly, together with recommendations for delineating their responsibilities with a view to avoiding any overlapping or duplication in their activities.

The Advisory Committee on Administrative and  
Budgetary Questions

50. In connexion with the recent tendency of creating new bodies to deal with administrative and budgetary questions, one delegation, during the general debate, expressed the view that this was partly due to the fact that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was carrying too heavy a workload in relation to its existing programme and method of work. As the operations of the Organization expanded and grew more complex the Advisory Committee was called upon to study an increasing number of problems. It would, therefore, be desirable if members of the Advisory Committee could devote more time to it, and possibly all their time. This would enable the Advisory Committee to give greater attention to its programme of work and to be of greater service to the Fifth Committee by virtue of being in session for a substantial part of the year. This delegation recommended that the Advisory Committee be asked to look into this matter and report to the Fifth Committee at the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly.

51. Other delegations concurred in the need to strengthen the Advisory Committee. One delegation stressed the necessity for a frank discussion of its role and functions, and of its relationship to the Fifth Committee. Since it was a small committee, with a balance in its membership between the developing and developed countries, it was essential that it give due consideration to all shades of opinion and that it devote sufficient time to each part of its work programme. In the view of this delegation neither of these considerations was being fulfilled. During its summer session when it undertook the major review of the Secretary-General's initial budget estimates and formulated its conclusions and recommendations thereon, many of its members, the majority of which were from developing countries, were unable to attend because they were usually persons of high calibre and of such value to their own Governments that they could not be spared for six months every year to serve on the Advisory Committee. That problem was compounded by the fact that the Advisory Committee did not seem to have sufficient time to complete even its present schedule of work. This delegation believed that one possible means of easing some of these problems might be to create alternate members of the Advisory Committee from countries other than those of the main representatives. Moreover, in the view of this delegation, the dominant point of view in the Advisory Committee, a body comprising less than 10 per cent of its membership, had become increasingly less representative of the consensus in the Fifth Committee. In its opinion, one obvious way to improve communication between the two committees was for the Advisory Committee to provide the Fifth Committee with much more detailed and analytical information.

52. Another delegation suggested that a careful examination of the Advisory Committee, preferably by a body other than the Advisory Committee itself, was urgently needed if it was to continue to discharge its important functions to the best interests of the Organization. Such an examination should comprise its composition, its size, its terms of reference, its functions, its role in relation to all other investigating and co-ordinating bodies, and the manner in which it conducts its business.

53. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee, in replying to some of the comments, agreed that the work of the Advisory Committee was a subject of importance and deserved a thorough examination. Such an examination would require full documentation on the Committee's origin, its terms of reference and the changes in and additions to those terms over the years, the difficulties experienced in its work, and an evaluation of the Committee's achievements. Unfortunately, such documentation was not available. The Advisory Committee itself was acutely aware of the fact that it needed strengthening in order to carry out its vital role in the intergovernmental control of the administration and financing of the United Nations. The Chairman was aware of this problem and it had been and was currently being discussed in the Advisory Committee. The best solutions had not yet been found, but it was hoped that suggestions would be forthcoming in due course. The Advisory Committee was grateful for the suggestions made during general debate and would study them carefully.

54. It was the impression of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, however, that some misunderstanding existed as to how the Committee worked. It was true that all members were not always in a position to attend all meetings and full sessions. However, in actual fact, the procedures and practices of the Advisory Committee were such that, to a considerable extent, the known views of absent members were taken into account in arriving at decisions and recommendations; the informal practices of the Committee allowed for such a working method. The attendance of members of the Committee had been good and the Committee's recommendations, based on a wealth of factual information, endeavoured to reflect the major shades of opinion in the General Assembly.

55. Replying to the suggestion that more information should be put before the General Assembly by the Advisory Committee and more detailed justification of the recommendations be given, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee noted that the Committee had spent six or seven weeks examining the budget estimates in continuous consultation with the Controller and other representatives of the Secretary-General, and a substantial amount of information was already before the Fifth Committee in the budget documents. However, if further details were required by Member States on any specific items, he was sure it could be provided.

Proliferation of meetings and documentation

56. The increasing number of meetings and the interrelated problem of the growing volume of documentation was a matter of concern to a number of delegations. Some of these delegations observed that it was becoming increasingly difficult, especially for the smaller delegations, to be adequately represented at all meetings and to cope with the great volume of documentation to which all organs of the United Nations system were contributing. Other delegations called attention to the limited financial and staff resources available to the Organization to cope with this problem.

57. Some delegations expressed the view that despite the recommendations which had been made on this subject by various organs, such as the Joint Inspection Unit, the Committee for the Reorganization of the Secretariat and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, it was only through the concerted effort of all Member States, which in the last analysis were responsible for the proliferation of meetings and documentation, that any progress could be made in this matter.

58. Regarding the number of meetings and conferences, some delegations stressed the importance of preparatory work in helping to decrease the number and length of meetings. One representative observed that the Committee on Conferences had not lived up to the expectations of his delegation, mainly because of its limited terms of reference. This representative felt that if the General Assembly should decide to prolong the mandate of the Committee at the present session, it should adopt a resolution which would, firstly, stipulate that only bodies directly concerned with the maintenance of peace and security should be allowed to increase the number of meetings allocated to them on the calendar of conferences beyond a fixed minimum percentage; and, secondly, that the Committee on Conferences should be authorized to schedule the venue of conferences on its calendar in accordance with the capacity of the existing conference services and with a view to meeting, as far as possible, the requirements of the various organs.

59. Another delegation observed that, for the most part, the greatest increase occurred in meetings concerned with economic, social and human rights questions, and although, in its opinion, the Economic and Social Council had already done excellent work in reducing the number of its conferences, it should be asked to

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take steps to ensure that the number of meetings held by it and its subsidiary bodies in 1971 be reduced by 20 per cent.

60. This same delegation observed that a proliferation of meetings inevitably led to a proliferation of documentation. There were too many documents, and they frequently arrived too late for the study necessary to afford delegations the opportunity to make a useful contribution to discussions. Some progress had been made since certain bodies which had agreed to do without verbatim records and many others to dispense with summary records. However, the Committee needed to reaffirm the relevant recommendations of the General Assembly in its resolution 2478 (XXIII) and to implement, as soon as possible, the proposals of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on this subject (A/7576). In addition, there existed an element of duplication in documentation, for example, in the practice of issuing certain statements as press releases as well as in the form of official documents. In such instances, this delegation believed that it would be more expedient and economical to convert press releases into official documents by attaching an appropriate cover sheet. The same sort of duplication existed in the case of summary records and press releases on discussions in Committees.

61. In this regard, one other representative wondered to what extent the press information services really used the releases issued to them after every meeting of the various organs and bodies of the United Nations. Moreover, the Joint Inspection Unit, in paragraphs 89 and 90 of its report (A/7576), referred to cases of duplication of studies and surveys by different United Nations bodies which, undoubtedly, also entailed duplication of research efforts. This representative suggested, very tentatively, that since it had been established by the Secretary-General in document A/INF.124 that the cost of producing a verbatim record was more than three times that of a summary record, it might be possible for the First Committee of the General Assembly to receive summary instead of verbatim records, and that it might be feasible for the Assembly to limit verbatim records of the plenary meetings to statements made during the general debate and to the closing session. The discussion of agenda items could be recorded in summary form and both forms of recording could perhaps appear without any difficulty in the same document.

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Public information activities

62. In the course of the general debate, a number of delegations referred to the information activities of the Organization. The Advisory Committee, in paragraphs 88 and 89 of its review of the budget estimates for 1970,<sup>14/</sup> expressed its appreciation of the extensive information contained in the internal study of United Nations information policies and activities made by the Office of Public Information, together with certain general observations of the Secretary-General thereon. It suggested, however, that before presenting the report on this study to the General Assembly for action, the Secretary-General might wish to obtain an independent appraisal of past and present information practices so as to enable him to establish essential priorities and to ensure that the proper emphasis be given to the various media and outlets available to the United Nations. In this regard, the Advisory Committee suggested also that the Secretary-General, in further evaluating the report, should take into consideration the results of the survey of utilization and deployment of the staff and facilities of the Office of Public Information which was expected to be completed before the end of 1969.

63. Some delegations were of the opinion that without having access to the report on the public information activities of the Organization, which was long past due, they were not able to judge whether the Advisory Committee was justified in making its recommendation.

64. The attention of the Advisory Committee was called by many delegations to the Secretary-General's observations in paragraphs 4 and 5 of his introduction to the annual report on the work of the Organization<sup>15/</sup> in which he commented on the increased interest in, and appreciation of, public information activity as an essential component of the substantive endeavours of the United Nations and expressed the hope that the various assessments and reports which had been made in respect of this activity would provide an opportunity for a major rethinking of the problem in the context of present-day needs and possibilities, and result in a reinvigoration of the activity itself.

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<sup>14/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/7608).

<sup>15/</sup> Ibid., Supplement No. 1A (A/7601/Add.1).

65. Some of these delegations were of the opinion that the Office of Public Information had not lived up to expectations in its role during the first Development Decade. It was especially important, as the Organization was approaching the United Nations Second Development Decade, to take the necessary steps in informing public opinion and in promoting awareness of the Organization's objectives in respect of the important task it had undertaken in the economic, social and humanitarian fields. Nothing had yet been done to arouse the interest of peoples and Governments to the importance of the economic and social advancement of developing countries which the United Nations Second Development Decade intended to promote. The critics of the United Nations as a peace-keeping organization should be made aware, by means of effective media, of its extensive services to the international community in those fields. These delegations felt that a revitalized Office of Public Information would help it fulfil its mandate in achieving these objectives. In this regard, one delegation suggested that a small team of experts or consultants be engaged to look into the structure and operation of the Office with a view to its attunement with the needs of the times. Other delegations concurred in this suggestion.

66. Certain delegations were particularly concerned with the inadequate Arabic broadcasting services of the Office of Public Information, both at Headquarters and Geneva. Considering the many millions of Arabic-speaking persons were interested in the activities of the United Nations, the programmes were infrequent, too short and of limited appeal to the audiences involved. One delegation outlined its suggestions for remedying these shortcomings. Other delegations concurred in its views.

67. In a statement before the Committee, the Assistant Secretary-General for Public Information stated that the intensive study of the basic policies governing the work of the Office of Public Information since its establishment and of its programmes and activities in the various media was begun before he assumed charge of the Office in January 1968. Completion of the study had been postponed for another year so as to enable him to look into the question personally, and he was grateful to the Fifth Committee for having agreed earlier to that procedure. He was of the opinion that the Advisory Committee's suggestion that the General Assembly await the results of the studies by the

Joint Inspection Unit and the Administrative Management Service before taking any decision on future Office of Public Information activities was both logical and expedient.

68. Referring to the suggestion made by some delegations for an independent appraisal of the Office's activities, the Assistant Secretary-General stated that he did not think that any inquiry further than that made by the professional staff of the Office and the two studies mentioned above was likely to produce results commensurate with the expenditure of time and money it would involve.

69. The Assistant Secretary-General observed that certain essential steps had been taken towards the reorientation of the information activities of the Organization. In the economic and social fields the Office's former Economic and Social Information Unit had been expanded to become a Division, and discussions were being held on its future role in the national and international effort to give the United Nations Second Development Decade the necessary information infrastructure. In the political field it had taken new initiatives in collaboration with the substantive departments and had begun publication of a new political periodical entitled "Objective: Justice".

70. Concerning Arabic radio and television programmes, since January 1969, an additional weekly radio programme with special emphasis on topics of interest to the Arabic-speaking world had been added to the regular daily broadcasts. Moreover, Arabic was the only language to have a fifteen minute weekly programme for use by the television authorities of the areas concerned.

71. One delegation inquired of the Assistant Secretary-General about a directive which had been sent to all information centres in October 1969, instructing them not to forward petitions on human rights violations to Headquarters. This delegation felt that these instructions were contrary to United Nations practice for the last twenty-four years. This point of view was supported by some other delegations.

72. The Assistant Secretary-General stated that the instructions had indeed been issued to the information centres and he proceeded to read the text of the letter which stated that information centres were established only at the request of the countries in which they were situated and their only function was the dissemination of information on United Nations activities. The centres

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were not substantive United Nations offices and had no authority to involve themselves in other activities.

73. One delegation expressed support for the principle that information centres should not forward communications from individuals or groups since the Office of Public Information could not assume functions of this nature. Such matters were within the essential jurisdiction of the Member State concerned.

#### Computer facilities

74. In his oral statement before the Committee on the budget estimates for 1970 (A/C.5/1233), the Secretary-General stated that he envisaged making appropriate use of electronic data processing methods as a means by which the various organs, as well as the Member States, would be able to obtain a clear and comprehensive picture of any of the activities of the United Nations system of organizations in respect of which they might require information on different occasions. With this end in mind, he contemplated establishing a small unit, within the existing establishment, to plan the application of computer methods and to consider the development of further inter-agency joint action in that field.

75. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in his oral statement before the Committee (A/C.5/1234), expressed the Advisory Committee's appreciation of the Secretary-General's intentions in this regard. He noted, however, that most of the larger organizations in the United Nations system either have or are planning to have their own computer facilities, and if this trend were allowed to continue, the funds required for these purposes might reach incredible proportions. It was, therefore, essential that co-ordinated action be taken and, wherever possible, computer facilities be integrated throughout the United Nations system.

76. Several delegations endorsed and welcomed the Secretary-General's proposal and many concurred in the recommendations of the Advisory Committee regarding the need for studying the financial aspects of the matter and for co-ordinating and integrating all computer facilities.

77. One delegation observed that the problem of co-ordinating and managing the economic and social programmes initiated by the legislative bodies of the different organizations was becoming more and more pressing. As the Organization was approaching the Second United Nations Development Decade there could be no better method of collecting and disseminating information of these activities than the modern computer method. With those considerations in mind, this delegation suggested that the Secretariat prepare a clear and comprehensive report on the application of computers in relation to the economic and social programmes of the Organization, on how many more would be needed and on the financial implications involved. The report might also include the position on the existing computer facilities, with an indication of the benefits derived therefrom, particularly on co-ordination of operations, the transfer of technical and scientific data and the administration of technical assistance.

#### Chinese language services

78. One representative reiterated his delegation's concern at the growing backlog of documents to be translated into Chinese, and drew the attention of the Secretary-General to the fact that the Chinese text of many important reports before the Assembly was so considerably delayed that his delegation was forced to base its comments on the English text. This situation was inconsistent with Financial Regulations 3.4 and 3.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, and should be corrected in order to ensure that reports reached his Government in time for it to study them and issue its instructions thereon. In addition, although the diligence of the translators in the Chinese Section and their efforts in trying to meet the time-limit imposed on them were fully appreciated, United Nations documents were considered as official and authoritative and greater effort should be exercised in the Chinese language editing in order to make them more comprehensible.

79. This representative expressed his delegation's gratification at the fact that more Chinese interpreters were being recruited to cope with the expanding meeting schedule and hoped that higher standards would continue to be sought and maintained. He noted, however, that Chinese language services had been omitted at the Fourth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment



of Offenders and requested the Secretariat to consult with the Chinese Mission when establishing the rules of procedure of such meetings before deciding to dispense with Chinese language services.

Revenue-producing activities

80. At the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, there had been widespread support in the Fifth Committee for a suggestion advanced by one delegation that a study be made of the possibilities of increasing the Organization's income, particularly through the undertaking of new activities of a revenue-producing nature.

81. In the course of the general debate several references were made to the study which the Secretary-General had undertaken to prepare on this subject. One delegation called attention to the decline in income from some of the revenue-producing activities in 1969. Another delegation was of the opinion that there was a tendency to neglect the income sections of the budget and to forget that each dollar which was not collected was as great a burden on the resources of the Organization as each dollar spent.

82. One delegation expressed the view that efforts should be made to obtain a higher income from the sale of United Nations publications; this would serve a double objective since it would also afford a wide dissemination of information about United Nations activities. In this connexion, another delegation noted that many United Nations publications were of exceptionally high calibre and that some had even been accepted or were being promoted as textbooks in institutes of higher learning. It might, therefore, be profitable to strengthen existing sales promotion facilities and make suitable technical and organizational innovations, including arrangements with university publishing houses.

83. This same delegation had suggested during the discussion of this item in the Committee at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly that the Organization might undertake the issuance of commemorative coins or medallions with a view to increasing its income. It was, therefore, gratified to note that the proposal of the Preparatory Committee for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the United Nations to strike commemorative medallions on the occasion of the anniversary had been endorsed by the Fifth Committee. In its opinion such action

should be the first step towards a comprehensive programme with a view to expanding revenue-producing activities of the Organization.

Expansion of Headquarters accommodations

84. A number of delegations, during the general debate, expressed reservations in respect of the expansion of the Headquarters accommodations in New York to provide for additional office space. The cost of living and the cost of various services in New York had risen more than in most cities of the world. In addition to the financial difficulties this situation created for the Secretariat staff, especially for those in the lower echelons, it also imposed a heavy financial burden on some countries with exchange problems that were maintaining permanent missions in New York.

85. In these circumstances, it was suggested by these delegations that some of the units which did not necessarily need to be located in New York could be relocated elsewhere. The offices engaged in activities related to the economic and social fields, for example, could be transferred to Switzerland, Austria or to one of the developing countries.

Reservations expressed under certain sections of the budget

86. Certain delegations reiterated their reservations regarding the inclusion in the regular budget of some of the items under sections 12 and 17, including the United Nations bond issue, the financing of the United Nations Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea and the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Korea, which they considered to be in contravention to the United Nations Charter. These delegations also believed that part V, technical programmes, should be financed solely from voluntary contributions and not from the regular budget. Other delegations also reserved their long-standing position of principle with regard to chapter IV, section 12, United Nations bond issue, that since in their view, the funds raised on these bonds were utilized exclusively to cover expenditure resulting from peace-keeping operations they should be financed on the principles approved by the General Assembly for that purpose rather than on the same basis as the regular expenditure of the Organization.

## CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS

### Section 3. Salaries and wages

87. In the course of the first reading of the proposed estimates under section 3, at the 1313th meeting of the Committee, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic expressed the opinion that the main reason for the rapid and continual growth of the budget in recent years was the constant expansion of the Organization's administrative machinery. His delegation could not, for example, support the request for additional staff to service conferences and provide documentation as it considered such requests contrary to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies and to various other decisions taken by the General Assembly. His delegation believed also that the Advisory Committee had not gone far enough in its recommended reductions under section 3. In the opinion of his delegation, the Secretary-General's request for provisional posts for 1970 could be eliminated without detriment to the activities of the Organization. However, during the general debate, his delegation had noted the emphasis which many developing countries had placed on the importance of the preparatory work to be carried out in respect of the United Nations Second Development Decade during 1970, and therefore proposed that the following paragraph (A/C.5/L.993) be included in the report of the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly on the budget estimates for 1970:

"The Fifth Committee, stressing its concern for more effective use of the existing staff of the Organization and, at the same time, taking into account the need to carry out the specific economic and social development programmes in 1970, decided to approve, in addition to the staff costs for 1969, the appropriations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions under sections 3 and 4 of the budget estimates for 1970 only in the amounts necessary for the recruitment of staff for new permanent and provisional posts in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the United Nations regional economic commissions."

88. Certain other delegations who were opposed to any increase in the staff over the level established for 1969 nevertheless agreed to support the proposal of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (A/C.5/L.993) as a minimum limitation on the Secretary-General's proposed staffing requirements. These delegations had

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adopted this compromise position in consideration of the statements made by the representatives of many developing countries linking the requests for new posts with the implementation of approved programmes in the economic and social fields for 1970.

89. On the other hand, a number of other delegations could not support any distinction between the recruitment of staff for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the regional economic commissions on the one hand, and the recruitment of staff for other departments of the Organization on the other. It was imperative that the Secretary-General be allowed full latitude in making appointments in all areas according to his best judgement.

90. At the 1322nd meeting of the Committee, the representative of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, while reiterating the concern of his delegation with what it considered to be an unchecked trend in the increase of posts throughout the Secretariat, withdrew his proposal (A/C.5/L.993) as a result of consultations held with other delegations.

91. One delegation stated that while it accepted the need for the 74 permanent posts requested by the Secretary-General under the budget as a whole, it could not agree to the principle of provisional posts provided under chapter V of section 3. If, as the representative of the Secretary-General had indicated, a delayed recruitment deduction of up to 80 per cent had been applied to the cost of the 234 such posts requested, that would indicate that what was needed was approximately 20 per cent of 234 man-years, or some 47 man-years, which would reduce the man-years remaining to something of the order of one-half of 1 per cent of the present authorized strength of the Secretariat. In these circumstances it should be possible, in carrying out the programmes for 1970, to provide for the necessary resources by filling as many vacancies as possible and by making better use of the existing manpower without recourse to the somewhat unsatisfactory device of provisional posts. Furthermore, in the opinion of this delegation, there was a strong tendency for the provisional to become permanent and although it did not object to the monetary credit requested by the Secretary-General, it did object to the principle involved and would therefore request a separate vote on chapter V of section 3 and abstain. Other delegations also expressed their intention to abstain in the vote on chapter V. While they were aware of the circumstances which had prompted the Secretary-General to resort to such a departure

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from normal budgetary practice, they nevertheless believed that it would be preferable to avoid creating such a precedent.

92. A number of delegations were concerned with what they considered to be the inadequate staffing resources for the Economic Commission for Africa. In view of the functions which the Commission was expected to fulfil and the hopes placed upon it by the African countries, these delegations questioned whether the seventeen provisional posts which were proposed for the Commission for 1970 would be sufficient for it to implement, during the United Nations Second Development Decade, the resolutions adopted by it at its ninth session. In replying to these delegations, the representative of the Secretary-General outlined some steps which had already been taken, or were expected to be taken, in this regard in pursuance of the resolutions adopted at the ninth session of the Commission.

93. One representative noted that although the Resources and Transport Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs was presently executing about a hundred projects, no increases were proposed for this Division for 1970. These projects were of major importance to many countries and his delegation questioned whether they could be completed with the resources presently available to the Division. Other delegations, during the general debate and during the consideration of part V of the budget estimates for 1970, made similar observations and referred to operative paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1426 (XLVI) which requested substantially increased resources for consultative and technological services related to the utilization of natural resources. The representative of the Secretary-General explained that the Resources and Transport Division was supplemented by staff financed from extra-budgetary funds. The United Nations Development Programme bore the overhead costs connected with the various projects referred to. In any event, he gave his assurance that the interests of the Division would certainly be safeguarded.

94. A number of delegations reiterated the concern they had expressed during the general debate regarding any pre-judgement of the outcome of the manpower utilization survey. In this regard, some delegations questioned whether the Secretariat would be in a position to take appropriate measures for the relocation or retraining of staff who may, as a result of the survey, become redundant in certain units of the Organization.



95. One delegation called attention to what it considered an inadequate system of arriving at adjustments in the salary scales for all categories of staff but more especially for those in the general service category. In addition, this delegation believed that there existed an anomaly in the amounts granted as a dependency allowance to the different categories of staff. Other delegations concurred in this view. Some delegations were of the opinion that the views of the Staff Association on personnel matters should be received by the Fifth Committee.
96. At the 1323rd meeting of the Committee, in accordance with requests for a separate vote by roll-call on chapter V of section 3, the recommendation of the Advisory Committee for an appropriation of \$580,000 was approved in first reading by 58 votes in favour, 10 against and 9 abstentions. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee for an appropriation in the amount of \$73,407,000 for section 3 as a whole was approved in first reading by 66 votes in favour, 9 against and no abstentions.

Section 21 - United Nations Industrial Development Organization

97. During the first reading of section 21, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the delegation of Austria reported in detail on accommodations made available to UNIDO in Vienna which included temporary headquarters for that Organization as well as the additional temporary facilities which would be provided by the Austrian Government to UNIDO as and when required. The building programme for temporary headquarters had taken into account the rapid expansion of UNIDO during the initial phase of its activities. The delegation of Austria also reported on preparations being undertaken jointly by the Austrian Government and the City of Vienna for the establishment of permanent headquarters which would include premises for UNIDO, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) as well as a conference centre.
98. The Committee took note of this information and decided to express its gratitude to the Austrian Government for having placed temporary facilities at the disposal of UNIDO and for having taken active steps towards the provision of permanent premises.

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses

99. The General Assembly, in operative paragraph 6 of its resolution 2370 (XXII), had requested the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to recommend an appropriate definition of the term "unforeseen and extraordinary expenses", as used in the annual resolution governing this matter, together with a resolution to cope with the interrelated problems, especially those recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies which related to transfers and supplementary estimates. At the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, the Advisory Committee submitted a report,<sup>16/</sup> together with a suggested draft resolution incorporating its recommendations. The Fifth Committee, at its 1291st meeting, decided to postpone to the twenty-fourth session of the General Assembly its consideration of the Advisory Committee's recommendations when a decision could be taken in the light of further studies and information requested of the Advisory Committee by various delegations during the discussion of this question.

100. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee, in its fifth report to the General Assembly at its present session (A/7726) undertook to respond to the many questions raised in the Fifth Committee at the twenty-third session of the General Assembly and to provide the supplementary information which had been requested on this item.

101. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee, in introducing the report of the Advisory Committee (A/7726) at the 1325th meeting of the Fifth Committee, stated that the Advisory Committee's proposed draft resolution and the annex thereto, appearing in annex IV of the report, had been revised so as to make them self-contained and operable. There was no significant change in the substance of the original texts which had been submitted to the Fifth Committee at the previous session, other than in the annex thereto. The annex to the draft resolution, therefore, was confined to the proposed new definitions of unforeseen and extraordinary expenses and to the suggested procedures to govern the financing of such expenditures.

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<sup>16/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 74, document A/7336.

102. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee stated further that the Committee was of the opinion that it had found the best solution to the problem of dealing with unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures. However, it was the understanding of the Committee that many representatives in the Fifth Committee would wish to have an opportunity to see how the proposed arrangements would respond to the objectives sought by the Ad Hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, with regard to budget practices, and, more particularly, how the new system would in effect work under given circumstances. The existing system relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures could be retained in 1970, and with the assistance of the Controller, an inquiry could be made during the first ten months of the year up to the time of the submission by the Secretary-General of his report on supplementary estimates, as to the manner in which the system proposed by the Advisory Committee would have worked had it been in force.

103. At the 1326th meeting of the Committee the Controller expressed his readiness to participate in the inquiry suggested by the Advisory Committee. After informal discussions with the Controller on the modalities involved, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee outlined, at the 1330th meeting of the Fifth Committee, the manner in which this inquiry could be conducted.

104. At its 1332nd meeting, the Fifth Committee decided to accept the proposal of the Advisory Committee that the existing procedures for unforeseen and extraordinary expenses should be retained in 1970 and that an inquiry should be undertaken as suggested by the Advisory Committee and as set forth in paragraph 102 above.

United Nations building in Santiago, Chile

105. At its 1328th meeting, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1249) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7749) regarding the programme of improvements to, and completion of, the existing building in Santiago, and the question of the planning for future accommodation needs.

106. During the twenty-third session, the General Assembly, pursuant to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, authorized the Secretary-General to proceed with certain work on the existing building to a value of \$1,328,500 of which \$659,000 was included in the appropriations for 1969 and \$669,500 in the initial estimates for 1970. In addition, the Secretary-General was authorized to proceed, within a maximum expenditure of \$41,000 in 1969, with the preparation of detailed plans and specifications and related costs for a satellite building, having also in mind the needs of other organizations of the United Nations family with local offices in Santiago and to report on this matter to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth session.

107. The Secretary-General, in paragraph 6 of his report (A/C.5/1249), with reference to the existing building, stated that while it had been possible to complete some of the less complicated projects during 1969, the major items would require considerable technical preparation and that, consequently, their implementation was deferred to 1970, and, in the case of air-conditioning, to 1971. In the circumstances, the Secretary-General proposed that the unexpended balance of the appropriation for 1969 be credited to the special building account in order that it might remain available to meet the commitments to be incurred in 1970, in addition to the credits of \$669,500 which had been requested for that year. The Advisory Committee concurred in the Secretary-General's request.

108. With regard to the construction of a satellite building, the Secretary-General in his report (A/C.5/1249) outlined the reasons which led him to defer the preparatory work for a satellite building and to seek further advice from the General Assembly, as well as the considerations which had led him to the conclusion that it would not be possible to construct on the present site a building large enough to meet the combined needs of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), the Institute for Economic and Social Planning and the other organizations of the United Nations family concerned. At the same time, the Secretary-General did not believe it desirable to postpone construction of a new building to meet the essential needs of ECLA and the Institute within their present context. In the circumstances, the Secretary-General proposed that he be authorized to proceed with the development of plans and cost estimates for the construction of a building of some 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>

(43,057 sq. ft.) gross which would provide for the immediate needs of ECLA and the Institute and allow for some expansion. The cost of such a study remained, as previously estimated, at \$41,000. In addition, the Secretary-General suggested that the interested organizations, in conjunction with the United Nations, might establish a committee in Santiago to examine the feasibility of the construction of a further building for common use and the modalities for its financing.

109. The Advisory Committee, in paragraphs 13 to 15 of its report (A/7749) agreed with the Secretary-General that the construction of a building to accommodate present and future needs of ECLA and the Institute for Economic and Social Planning be undertaken, thereby postponing for the time being the idea of common premises to include other interested organizations. The Advisory Committee also endorsed the Secretary-General's suggestion to establish a committee in Santiago to examine the advantages and disadvantages of such a common building.

110. During the discussion of this item, one representative, while expressing his delegation's appreciation of the Secretary-General's efforts to complete the construction of the Santiago building, noted with regret that the work would take much longer than had originally been envisaged and felt that the plans for the construction of new premises should not be unduly delayed. In this connexion, he suggested that the satellite building should have a capacity of 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> of office space instead of 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>. In his view this change would not substantially increase the architect's fee and would provide a more adequate solution to the housing problem of the organizations now accommodated in the ECLA building.

111. Another delegation observed that the consolidation of the regional and national offices of the specialized agencies and the units of the United Nations in common premises would bring about better co-ordination of activities and increase efficiency, and hoped that the proposed Santiago committee would take the Secretary-General's views in this regard into account.

112. The Committee decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1249) and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7749) on this item and to adopt the following recommendations of the Advisory Committee regarding the accommodations in Santiago:



(a) That the unencumbered balance of the 1969 appropriation for the programme of modification and improvement of the existing building be credited to the Santiago building account to meet commitments in 1970;

(b) That the amount of \$41,000 appropriated in the 1969 budget for the preparation of plans, specifications and cost estimates for a satellite building for use by ECLA and the Institute, be credited as a separate item to the Santiago building account, it being understood that in carrying out this work in 1970, the Secretary-General would give consideration to all available sites;

(c) That the Secretary-General be requested to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session: (i) the plans, specifications and cost estimates for the satellite building, and (ii) a progress report on the programme of modification and improvement of the existing building, and on the proposed new construction; and

(d) That the Secretary-General, together with the other interested organizations, set up a committee in Santiago to examine the advantages and disadvantages of the construction of a common building at some later date, and the modalities of its financing.

United Nations accommodations in Bangkok, Thailand, and  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

113. At its 1342nd meeting, the Committee considered the reports of the Secretary-General on United Nations accommodations in Bangkok, Thailand (A/C.5/1264) and on office space and conference facilities for the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa (A/C.5/1265). The Committee also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions related to both of these items (A/7806).

114. The Secretary-General in his reports (A/C.5/1264 and A/C.5/1265) analysed the existing accommodation problems in Bangkok and Addis Ababa and proposed broadly similar measures with a view to their eventual solution.

115. As regards the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) in Bangkok, the Secretary-General, under paragraph 10 of his report (A/C.5/1264), proposed that the General Assembly might wish to authorize the development of

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appropriate plans for the expansion of the premises of ECAFE and suggested that steps be taken to provide the necessary information upon which the General Assembly could decide to take appropriate measures. One of the suggestions of the Secretary-General was the preparation in 1970, by means of an architectural and engineering survey, of preliminary plans for new construction, and the provision of the related cost estimates. In this connexion, should the General Assembly approve the course of action suggested by the Secretary-General, an appropriation of \$50,000 for 1970, would be required under section 7 of the budget to meet the costs of the architectural and engineering survey, on the understanding that, to the extent that the Government of Thailand might participate on a cost-free basis, the full amount would not be spent.

116. As regards the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in Addis Ababa, the Secretary-General, in paragraph 23 of his report (A/C.5/1265), proposed an initiative similar to that which he put forward with respect to ECAFE in Bangkok, that is, that the General Assembly might wish to authorize the development of appropriate plans for the expansion of the premises for the Commission. An appropriation of \$50,000 for 1970 under section 7 would be needed for the necessary architectural and engineering survey, on the understanding that to the extent that the necessary services are provided cost-free by the Government of Ethiopia, the full amount would not be spent.

117. The Advisory Committee in its report (A/7806) accepted the Secretary-General's conclusions, based on the extensive information provided in his two reports, that the existing premises of ECAFE and ECA were insufficient for their needs and concurred in the Secretary-General's proposals that the General Assembly might wish to authorize the development of exploratory plans for the expansion of these premises. Accordingly, it agreed on the steps outlined by the Secretary-General to achieve this purpose, on the understanding that the Secretary-General should endeavour to enter into a formal agreement with each of the host Governments which would clearly define the conditions governing the presence of United Nations Offices. In addition, the Advisory Committee shared the Secretary-General's hope that both host Governments would find it possible

to assist in the preparation of the proposed architectural and engineering surveys. Finally, the Advisory Committee recommended that the proposed studies be as comprehensive as possible and cover all possible solutions to the problems of accommodation in Bangkok and Addis Ababa.

118. The Advisory Committee, in the light of the above considerations, agreed that the General Assembly might wish to appropriate an amount of \$100,000 for the purpose of conducting architectural and engineering surveys for possible construction by the United Nations in Bangkok and Addis Ababa, on the understanding that, to the extent the host Governments provide services cost-free, the full amount would not be spent.

119. In the course of the discussion on this item, one delegation expressed the view that allocation of funds for the proposed surveys was premature since the United Nations had not yet concluded any official agreement with the host Governments specifying the conditions for the occupation of the premises in question. This delegation would therefore be obliged to vote against the proposed appropriation.

120. Another delegation maintained that all legal formalities should be concluded before any construction or carrying out of surveys was undertaken. Furthermore, a decision as to the site of the permanent headquarters of ECAFE had not yet been taken by the competent legislative organ of the United Nations. In the circumstances, this delegation would not support the appropriation for the survey at Bangkok.

121. The Committee, by a vote of 57 votes in favour, 8 against and no abstentions, decided to adopt the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on this item. A draft resolution giving effect to this decision is included as Draft Resolution IV in paragraph 182 below.

Headquarters accommodation: proposed new construction  
and major alterations to existing premises

122. The Fifth Committee took up this question at its 1346th to 1352nd meetings. The Committee considered the Secretary-General's reports A/C.5/1246/Add.1 containing the results of the architectural and engineering survey conducted in pursuance of operative paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 2487 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, A/C.5/1246 setting forth his recommendations thereon, A/C.5/1263 on the current office and related space requirements and development over the next twenty years and A/7835 containing the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

123. In submitting his recommendations on the proposed new construction at Headquarters, the Secretary-General indicated that consideration had been given to the desire of the General Assembly that provision should be made for projected space requirements beyond 1976. This necessitated certain revisions in the programme of requirements envisaged last year. The revised proposals would result in an increase in the gross building area of the proposed project from 778,526 sq. ft. (72,325 sq. m.) to 857,123 sq. ft. (79,626 sq. m.) - an addition of some 78,597 sq. ft. (7,302 sq. m.) gross, which, together with certain revisions in space utilization in the areas of the existing building, would provide a total increase of 81,000 sq. ft. (7,525 sq. m.) net office space as against the plans submitted last year. The Secretary-General indicated that these modifications would ensure sufficient office space for the United Nations, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Children's Fund and other occupants through 1978-1979. However, as against the initial estimate of \$50 million to cover the cost of the whole project, the estimated cost now stood at \$73,399,000, due to such reasons as the approximate nature of the earlier estimate, which had been formulated without adequate plans and specifications, the revision of plans resulting in increased gross area, and the upward movement of construction costs. In view of the fact that actual construction could not commence, even under the most favourable circumstances, before late 1970 and taking into account the need to make adequate provision for contingencies and considering present trends and construction costs, the Secretary-General had deemed it prudent to base his financial planning on the assumption that implementation of the architectural and engineering plans could involve an outlay of up to \$80 million.

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The Secretary-General estimated that the share to be borne by the United Nations regular budget would not exceed a maximum of \$25 million, to be spread over not less than five years and not more than ten years, commencing in 1971. An appropriate contribution from the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund, which were occupying rented premises at a total rental cost of \$900,000 in 1970, was also envisaged to cover a part of the balance of the funds required. The remainder of the funds required was expected to be met through contributions and donations. The Secretary-General recommended that he should be authorized to proceed with the execution of the project, subject to the proviso that he would not enter into commitments or expenditures in addition to the amount of \$250,000 already made available under General Assembly resolution 2487 (XXIII) unless and until the necessary funds, other than those to be obtained by budgetary appropriations, were firmly pledged and committed and the total financing plan had been reviewed and approved by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

124. In considering the report of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions took into account the report on the current office and related space requirements and development over the next twenty years (A/C.5/1263), submitted by the Secretary-General in response to operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 2487 (XXIII). The Advisory Committee concluded in its report (A/7835) that, on the basis of the information provided by the Secretary-General on the office space already available, under construction and currently planned in Geneva, Vienna and at the sites of the regional economic commissions, it appeared that those offices could not provide an alternative to additional facilities at Headquarters, New York. The Advisory Committee considered the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed site and came to the conclusion that, on balance, the plans as submitted by the Secretary-General were reasonable and acceptable. In coming to this conclusion, the Committee pointed out that, if the General Assembly decided to transfer some units out of New York for reasons other than the existence of available space elsewhere, such a move would extend the period of adequacy of the proposed new building in New York, although additional construction would be required in the locality chosen for the move unless the numbers of staff to be moved were relatively small.



125. In attempting to assess the impact of the proposed construction of the building in New York on the United Nations regular budget over the next decade, in conjunction with the other annual budgetary provisions for the construction and alteration of premises, the Committee noted that, beginning in 1976, the size of the annual instalment for the repayment for the existing Headquarters construction loan would decline during the period of 1976 to 1981 from \$2.5 million to \$1.5 million and that the last instalment, in the amount of \$1 million, was due in 1982. The Committee further noted that, on the assumption that the proposed building would be completed for occupancy by the end of 1973, there would be - beginning in 1974 - an offsetting saving on rentals. Assuming an annual increase of 120 staff members, the Advisory Committee estimated that the rental costs in 1975 would be in the neighbourhood of \$2 million. Thus, if the cost to the United Nations of \$25 million for the proposed project could be repaid over ten years, the annual instalment of \$2.5 million would be only slightly larger than the rental that would otherwise have had to be paid in 1974 and that, by the end of the decade, the instalment would be considerably smaller than the rental.

126. Taking into consideration all factors involved, including the need to re-assemble the Secretariat operations and activities that have become increasingly dispersed and the desirability of avoiding, to the extent possible, the risk of further sharp rises in construction costs and of unexpected developments which might adversely affect the projected financial arrangements, the Advisory Committee concluded that the proposal by the Secretary-General deserved favourable consideration by the General Assembly at its current session. In such an event, the Advisory Committee would be required in 1970 to review and approve the total financing plan, i.e. to assure:

(a) That the total amount to be borne by the United Nations regular budget would not exceed a maximum of \$25 million;

(b) That the Secretary-General had received pledges and commitments from sources other than the United Nations regular budget in amounts adequate, when added to the United Nations contribution specified in (a) above, to ensure the implementation of the project as approved by the General Assembly;

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(c) That the detailed plans and specifications would provide the amount of new and renovated space indicated in the Secretary-General's report;

(d) That the number of annual instalments in which the United Nations contribution to the construction costs would have to be appropriated would fall within the proposed range of five to ten years.

127. In regard to point (d) above, the Advisory Committee believed that, if possible, the annual instalments towards the United Nations contribution of up to \$25 million should be spread over ten years rather than five years or even longer.

128. Many delegates expressed their appreciation of the soundness of the proposals, particularly in view of the fact that out of the over-all total cost of the project of about \$90 million, including the site which is to be donated, the burden on the United Nations regular budget would not exceed \$25 million. Noting that the expansion of United Nations Headquarters was directly attributed to the expansion of activities of the United Nations as agreed to by Member States, a number of delegations wished to express their gratitude to the Government of the United States of America, New York City and other United States sources, whose contributions would cover the major part of the expenditure. Several delegations stated in relation to the paragraphs in the draft resolution which dealt with living and working conditions for missions in New York, that although New York, in common with other large cities had certain drawbacks, it was nevertheless a city that offered unique opportunities. They also emphasized the considerable efforts made by the host country to facilitate the work of the United Nations Headquarters and of the permanent missions in New York.

129. Certain delegations were of the view that the question of undertaking new construction should be considered only after the necessity for additional staff, as envisaged in the Secretary-General's report, had been established. They felt that, even if adequate justification existed for staff increases, it would be imperative to explore the possibilities of transferring certain divisions or units from New York to other locations, such as Geneva or Vienna. Although such action would call for undertaking construction work in such cities, building costs there were considerably less than those in New York. It was their view that, with the increasing overcrowding in New York City, the difficulties of finding adequate office and residential accommodation for Secretariat staff and the staff of the permanent missions were getting more and more acute. Some delegations proposed that an intergovernmental committee be established to study the question in all its aspects and submit a report before any action was taken on the current proposals.

130. One delegation felt that, in view of the increasing scarcity of suitable sites for construction and the prevailing paucity of adequate residential accommodation

in Manhattan, the question of undertaking new construction projects elsewhere in the vicinity of New York City or elsewhere in the United States be explored.

131. Certain delegations felt that adequate time had not been given to study the proposals and that plans for finding additional space should be presented after conducting a detailed study of the construction costs in appropriate and convenient centres in the world, after taking into consideration possibilities of relocating self-contained Secretariat units in different countries. On the other hand, another delegation stressed the advantage in terms of administrative convenience and efficiency of having the new premises adjacent to the main building.

132. A few delegations were of the view that the environmental conditions in New York and threats of damage to life and property were factors militating against any agreement to proposals for undertaking new construction work in New York.

133. One representative, while noting with appreciation the generous attitude of the City of New York towards the United Nations, inquired whether consideration had been given to the element of annual maintenance costs of the new building which could be appreciable as compared to similar costs in other parts of the world. Inasmuch as there would be no scope for further expansion beyond 1979, his delegation's view was that, instead of undertaking such an expensive project, it might be preferable to decentralize activities and to transfer them to other countries.

134. Expressing concern at the fact that the United States of America, the host country to the United Nations, had not yet signed the Convention on Privileges and Immunities, one delegation requested information as to the current status of the proposed agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America.

135. Noting that it had been proposed that the United Nations regular budget would be committed to only \$25 million, many delegations expressed their desire to be advised in clearer terms of the financial arrangements to cover the balance of the \$80 million needed for construction and improvement. Certain delegations wished further clarification as to the extent of contributions envisaged from the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund and the nature of the agreement under which such contributions would be paid.

136. The representative of the United States recalled the circumstances last year under which the General Assembly had authorized the development of detailed architectural plans and cost estimates for the project, as proposed by the Fund for Area Development, to expand the existing United Nations Headquarters buildings and to construct a new building to the south of the present site, as well as to

develop adjacent park land. He endorsed the proposals as a solution to the increased needs for facilities for the delegates as well as the requirements for office space and other functional needs. On the matter of financing, he explained that certain support was dependent upon assurances from the current General Assembly that it endorsed the project. In the event of such an expression, the Congress of the United States would be requested to authorize and appropriate in the budget for the fiscal year 1971 a contribution not to exceed \$20 million. The Mayor of the City of New York had also authorized an announcement that, on the same conditions, he would seek a contribution to match that of the Federal Government. The balance of the funds required, apart from the \$25 million to be authorized by the General Assembly, would be sought from the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund and other sources within the United States. These arrangements were expected by the Secretary-General to provide a viable financial package. If to the \$12 million value of the land to be donated by the City of New York to the United Nations were added the maximum cash expenditure of \$80 million, the United Nations share indeed constituted a most attractive financial proposal. He also pointed out the arithmetic of the amounts to be paid by the United Nations as a percentage of the total value of the expansion and therefore the reasons why this financial package should be considered "a good deal".

137. The representative of the United States also announced that the President of the United States of America had approved action on the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and had directed that it be transmitted promptly to the United States Senate for its advice and consent. As for host country relations, he explained the work of the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations and the USUN-NYC Host Country Advisory Committee and described the activities of those bodies in providing services and assistance to facilitate the functioning of the United Nations diplomatic community. He also stressed the many services provided by the Mayor of the City of New York, the New York City Commission to the United Nations and co-operating non-governmental organizations to make life in New York more enjoyable for the official/foreign community.

138. The representative of the United States also expressed the opinion that, in planning for expansion through 1979, the Secretary-General had exercised good judgement and that those who found fault with the project on these grounds would have been equally dissatisfied whatever the extent of the proposed new premises.



As for the matter of the timing of the report, he confirmed from his knowledge that, given the complexity of the problems, it had been handled expeditiously and that, while earlier submission would have been desirable, it had not been possible. 139. The Controller explained that, apart from being able to stipulate the maximum commitment under the United Nations regular budget, it had not been possible to spell out in a more precise way the definite terms for financing the project because of various factors which needed further elaboration at the time of the submission of the report of the Secretary-General. He added that, although the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme had written to him indicating his interest in the new building, no financial commitment could be expected to be made without obtaining the approval of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme. It was his hope that an appropriate and reasonable amount would be forthcoming from the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund which, in 1970, would be paying rent for the space occupied by them at a cost of \$900,000. He pointed out that, in any case, only after all arrangements had been finalized for the financing of the project would the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions be requested to proceed with the authorization to commence with the execution of the project. In reply to certain queries raised by some members in regard to payment of interest on the loans the United Nations might have to secure, he explained that it was his hope to secure some loans without interest and others at nominal rates of interest. He added that the execution of the proposed construction project would not mean that the possibilities of decentralization should not be explored.

140. Some delegations desired that the representative of the host Government should give an assurance that, if the total cost of the project exceeded \$80 million, his Government would undertake to make good such excess, over and above the donations proposed to be made at the federal and city levels as well as from private funds. The representative of the United States reiterated what had been said at an earlier meeting, to the effect that the Federal Government's commitment would be limited to \$20 million subject to congressional approval and that no undertaking of the type sought could be made.



141. On the question of the cost of maintenance of the new building, the Assistant Secretary-General, Office of General Services, explained that he could not give specific cost estimates, since it was impracticable to develop such figures. He stated, however, that in the design of the proposed project every effort had been made to include equipment and materials which would require a minimum of maintenance expenditure. Operating costs would also be kept low by utilizing in the servicing of the new building, facilities already existing within the present premises. In his judgement, maintenance and operating costs for the additional area initially would not exceed one third of those of the present Headquarters building, which, of course, had a much larger area.

142. The representatives of Canada, Iran, Nicaragua and Norway tabled a draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1033) which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 2487 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968 which authorized the Secretary-General to proceed, at an estimated cost to the United Nations of \$250,000 in 1969, with the preparation of detailed plans and specifications on which reliable cost estimates could be based,

"Noting the subsequent reports of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1246 and Add.1) and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7835) on proposed new construction and major alterations to existing premises at Headquarters,

"1. Decides to authorize the Secretary-General to proceed with the execution of the project on the basis set forth in paragraph 26 of his report (A/C.5/1246), taking into account the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (A/7835);

"2. Further decides that United Nations budgetary appropriations for the purpose of the Headquarters project should not exceed \$25 million, to be spread over a period of ten years commencing in 1971;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session."

143. The above resolution was subsequently revised in the following manner under the co-sponsorship of Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, Ghana, Guyana, India, Iran, Kenya, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania (A/C.5/L.1033/Rev.1, as verbally amended):

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"The General Assembly.

"Recalling General Assembly resolution 2487 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968 which authorized the Secretary-General to proceed, at an estimated cost to the United Nations of \$250,000 in 1969, with the preparation of detailed plans and specifications on which reliable cost estimates could be based,

"Noting the subsequent reports of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1246 and Add.1) and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7835) on proposed new construction and major alterations to existing premises at Headquarters,

"Recognizing the acute space shortage currently existing at United Nations Headquarters as well as at many other major United Nations locations and that the existing circumstances preclude any immediate relief except through new construction,

"Convinced that the assistance of the host country is urgently needed to help resolve the considerable difficulties which exist for delegations and staff in New York in acquiring and retaining suitable and moderately priced office and residential accommodation in convenient locations,

"Aware that many factors must be considered in determining the optimum locations at which additional construction should be undertaken, including the interrelationships between the organizational units of the United Nations, inflationary pressures, including cost-of-living factors, etc.,

"Convinced also that all the possibilities of relocating units of the United Nations now or in the near future, in the context of the existing need to build at all major United Nations locations, have not yet been fully explored,

"Expressing its appreciation to those other sources that have indicated or may indicate a willingness to bear a substantial cost of the proposed Headquarters construction,

"Welcoming the assurances given by the Government of the United States of America, as the host country of the United Nations Headquarters, that it will immediately seek accession to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,

"1. Decides to authorize the Secretary-General to proceed with the execution of the project on the basis set forth in paragraph 26 of his report (A/C.5/1246), taking into account the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (A/7835);

"2. Further decides that the United Nations budgetary appropriations for the purpose of the Headquarters project should not in any circumstances exceed \$25 million, to be spread over a period of ten years commencing in 1971;

"3. Notes with interest the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/1263) on space requirements and developments over the next twenty years, but reaffirms the need for full examination of the possibilities regarding future dispositions of staff in relation both to available and potential accommodation, not merely in New York or Geneva, but also in other localities;

"4. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a systematic inquiry into the possibility and desirability of relocating all or part of certain units of the United Nations bearing in mind the efficiency of the operations of the Secretariat of the United Nations and, for this purpose, to employ the early years of the coming decade, in effective consultation with the appropriate Government authorities, in choosing potential locations for United Nations units other than in already established major United Nations centres;

"5. Decides, accordingly, that before further construction, beyond that authorized by this and prior decisions of the General Assembly, takes place in either New York or Geneva, a full inquiry shall be made into the possibility and desirability of relocating units elsewhere;

"6. Urges the host country to undertake an examination of those conditions which adversely affect the delegations and staff of the United Nations in New York and to consider taking all necessary measures to alleviate the effect of such conditions;

"7. Requests the Secretary-General to reconstitute and convene on a regular basis the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations so that there will be a continuous interchange of views and the exploration of problems between the diplomatic community, the Secretariat and the host Government on matters of mutual interest and to report the results thereof to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session and annually thereafter;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at the beginning of its twenty-fifth session, on all developments in connexion with this resolution."

144. The representative of France stated that the question of a financial contribution from the United Nations Development Programme could only be decided by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme. The same applied to a possible contribution by UNICEF whose Executive Board would have to approve any such financial contribution. Accordingly, the extent, if any, of such contributions should not be prejudged. Moreover, his delegation proposed the following additions to the draft resolution:

(a) Addition of the following new paragraph in the preamble:-

"Aware of the problems posed by the continuous development of the activities of the United Nations Headquarters (document A/C.5/1263);"

(b) Addition of the following new operative paragraph:

"Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a more complete study of the possibilities of distributing the Secretariat services in the light not only of the planned construction of buildings in the course of preparation or contemplated, but in the light also of other relevant factors and requests him to submit the study to the next session of the General Assembly;"

145. The representative of Belgium, while commending the Secretary-General, his advisers and the architects, and thanking the Government of the United States of America and the City of New York for their co-operation and generosity, suggested the replacement of the existing operative paragraph 3 of the revised draft resolution with the following paragraph:

"Notes with interest the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/1263) on space requirements and developments over the next twenty years and requests the Secretary-General to supplement it, taking into account all the relevant factors, by a detailed study, to be submitted to the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, of the possibilities regarding future dispositions of staff in relation both to available and potential accommodation, not merely in New York or Geneva, but also in other localities;"

146. Supporting the revised draft resolution introduced by Canada, one delegate emphasized the need to engage in the continued enquiry of potential choices of cities to which certain activities of the United Nations could be transferred in order that the General Assembly could be seized of the possibilities so that, as and when the need arose in the next decade, its approval could be secured for such transfers. Another delegate, while supporting the revised draft resolution, would have preferred an arrangement whereby the General Assembly, rather than the Advisory Committee, would approve the financial arrangements.

147. The representative of Austria, welcoming the acceptance by the co-sponsors of a verbal amendment whereby, in preambular paragraph 3 of the revised draft resolution, the word "all" had been changed to "many", wished to place on record that there was currently no shortage of accommodation in Vienna.

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148. Several delegations stated that, although the amendments tabled by France and Belgium were in accordance with their own thinking on the subject, in view of the fact that the revised draft resolution provided for the type of end result these amendments envisaged, they would abstain if they were put to the vote. Other delegates indicated that it was after extensive discussions, at considerable expenditure of time, that an acceptable wording could be agreed to as contained in the revised draft resolution and that the acceptance of further amendments would result in additional discussions and further expenditure of time. In the circumstances, they would vote against these amendments.

149. In response to an inquiry from one delegation as to the administrative and financial implications of the amendment tabled by the delegate of France, the representative of the Secretary-General stated that, while the expenditure involved might be met from within the available resources, it might not be possible to submit a detailed and meaningful report to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session, although it might be possible to submit an interim report. The representative of the Secretary-General also stated that no additional appropriation would be necessary to implement the provisions of the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1033/Rev.1), if adopted.

150. In clarification of a question raised by one delegation, one of the co-sponsors of the draft resolution explained that the sixth preambular paragraph of the draft resolution was intended to refer to the current as well as the contemplated construction work at major United Nations locations.

151. The representative of France stated that he wished to withdraw his proposal for the inclusion of an additional paragraph in the preamble as well as in the operative part of the draft resolution. Instead, he was proposing that paragraph 3 of the existing text in the revised draft resolution should be amended to read as follows:

"Notes with interest the Secretary-General's report A/C.5/1263 on space requirements and developments over the next twenty years, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a more complete study of the possibilities of distributing Secretariat function between Headquarters in New York, the United Nations European Office at Geneva, or any other location which may be appropriate, bearing in mind not only the construction projects in progress or envisaged, but other pertinent factors as well, and requests him to submit such study to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session."

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152. The draft amendment proposed by France was carried by a vote of 32 to 22, with 38 abstentions.

153. The representative of Belgium withdrew his amendment (A/C.5/L.1036).

154. The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by a roll-call vote of 62 to 10, with 12 abstentions (see paragraph 182 below, draft resolution VI). A number of delegations subsequently indicated the manner in which they would have voted had they been present.

Study of the nature of the increases in the level of  
expenditure in the United Nations regular budget

155. During the general debate, one representative, referring to the concern voiced by many delegations on the constantly increasing level of expenditure of the Organization, stated that in order to obtain a proper perspective on the problem, it would, in his opinion, be useful to assess the expansion of the United Nations regular budget in the light of various determining factors other than by the increased dollar level alone. This representative outlined the factors which he considered relevant and suggested that a detailed study of the expansion in real terms of the United Nations budgetary requirements over the past twenty-five years be undertaken by the Secretariat, taking into account the factors which he had outlined, and any other relevant circumstances. A number of other representatives supported this suggestion.

156. In this connexion, at the 1343rd meeting of the Fifth Committee, the representative of India introduced the following draft resolution on behalf of the delegations of Argentina, Barbados, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, India, Indonesia, the Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Arab Republic, the United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta and Yugoslavia (A/C.5/L.1024):

"The General Assembly,

"Noting the concern expressed by some Member States regarding the expansion in the level of the United Nations budget,

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"Mindful of the need for intensified efforts to bring about the most economic and efficient utilization of the resources of the United Nations in the light of the normal expansion in the activities of the United Nations,

"Convinced that it is inappropriate to control growth in programmes through limitations on budgetary levels particularly at a time when new areas eminently suited for international co-operation and action continue to emerge,

"Conscious of the need to have a clear and objective picture of the various factors which have contributed to the expansion of the United Nations budget in the past,

"1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session an economic and financial analysis of the nature of the increase in the activities, staff and budget of the United Nations, clearly distinguishing between the increase in money terms and that in real terms, taking into account, to the extent possible, inter alia, the following factors:

"(a) The reduction in the purchasing power of the amounts contributed by Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations as a result of a general rise in the cost of goods and services and the rise in the cost of living at the locations of principal United Nations offices;

"(b) The correlation between (i) the rise in the contributions to the regular budgets of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as well as to international programmes within the United Nations system for promoting the economic development of the developing countries, and (ii) the rise in the level of national budgets with particular reference to the rate of expansion of the national administrative establishments and the level and growth of the gross national products of States contributing more than 1 per cent of the regular budget of the United Nations;

"(c) The growth in traditional and in the new fields of activity of the United Nations in carrying out its responsibilities in promoting international co-operation in the areas of economic and social development;

"(d) The extent of the increase in the United Nations regular budget as a result of:

- (i) the increase in the membership of the Organization,
- (ii) the increase in the number of working languages,
- (iii) the wider experience and higher qualifications of personnel now required by the Organization, particularly for its development work because of the growing complexity and inter-disciplinary character that the developmental problems have come to acquire."

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157. The representative of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that, should the General Assembly decide to adopt the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1024), it would not be necessary to request additional resources to comply with the request contained therein. The present resources would be adequate, but in certain cases, the response given would be more indicative than specific.

158. Some delegations announced they would vote in favour of the draft resolution because they considered that the study it proposed was a useful one. There was a definite need to analyse the true reasons for the growth of the United Nations budget.

159. Subsequently, the delegations of Cameroon and Kuwait joined the original twenty-four sponsors of the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1024/Add.1).

160. A number of delegations, expressing their opposition to draft resolution A/C.5/L.1024 and Add.1, were especially critical of operative paragraph 1 (b). One delegation, referring to that paragraph, stated that it would not accept a proposal which referred to the contributions and budgets of a particular group of Member States, namely, those which contribute more than 1 per cent of the regular budget. In addition, this delegation, as well as others, referring to the same paragraph, stated that it sought to create an unacceptable correlation between the national budgets of some countries and that of the United Nations. This, in the opinion of some delegations, was completely out of context of such a draft resolution which should be aimed fundamentally at improving the correlation between the use of the available resources of the United Nations and the specialized agencies on the one hand and the needs of the developing countries, on the other.

161. One representative observed that his delegation, while not opposed to what it believed to be the objective of the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.1024 and Add.1, considered the text to be imprecise. The language should be simplified in order to convey its aims more clearly. Moreover, the specific period of time to be covered by the proposed analysis had not been indicated. His delegation's principal objection to the draft resolution, however, was operative paragraph 1 (b), which, in his view, pointed a finger at a certain group of countries. If it was not the intention of the sponsors to single out a particular group of countries, one of which was his own, then they should not do

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so. This representative made certain suggestions for amendments to the draft resolution, which if adopted by the sponsors, would, in the opinion of his delegation, command widespread support. Other delegations subsequently concurred in these views.

162. At the 1349th meeting of the Committee, the delegation of Syria joined the twenty-six sponsors of draft resolution A/C.5/L.1024 and Add.1.

163. At the same meeting, in response to the suggestion of one delegation that the sponsors consult with those delegations which had informally proposed amendments to the draft resolution in order to work out a compromise, some of the sponsors stated that no useful purpose could be served by postponing the vote on the draft resolution. The sponsors had indicated that the study only sought to establish facts. The text had been available for more than two months in six different versions and during that time only two concrete suggestions had been received and were incorporated. They preferred a vote on the draft resolution in its present form.

164. At the 1349th meeting of the Committee, the third preambular paragraph of the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1024) and Add.1 was adopted by the Committee by a roll-call vote of 51 to 16, with 14 abstentions.

165. The Committee then adopted draft resolution A/C.5/L.1204 and Add.1 as a whole, by a roll-call vote of 52 to 9, with 20 abstentions (see paragraph 182 below, draft resolution V).

#### Revenue-producing activities

166. At the twenty-third session of the General Assembly, the Fifth Committee decided to request the Secretary-General to undertake a thorough study to explore short and long-range practical possibilities of increasing the income from the present activities of the Organization and, especially, of starting additional revenue-producing activities.

167. At the 1349th meeting of the Committee, the representative of the Secretary-General stated that it had not been possible to put before the present session a report on the progress achieved in respect of such a study. However, it was the intention of the Secretary-General to complete the preparation of as comprehensive a report as possible during the first half of 1970 in time for the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to review it at its summer or early fall session and for a subsequent early distribution to delegations.

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Provision for assistance in cases of national disasters

168. At its 1330th meeting, held on 19 November 1969, the Committee considered a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1253) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7770) concerning the authorization granted to the Secretary-General in General Assembly resolution 2435 (XXIII) to draw from the Working Capital Fund, up to a maximum of \$100,000, to meet requests from Governments for assistance in cases of national disaster.

169. In addition to approving this increase in the maximum amount from \$100,000 to \$150,000 in 1969, the Committee decided to approve a similar increase for 1970 and decided that such disbursements be financed by means of recourse to the resolution on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses regarding a normal ceiling, in the future, of \$15,000 per country in the case of any one disaster, on the understanding that the Secretary-General would have the authority to grant a maximum of \$20,000 at his discretion.

170. The above-mentioned decisions are reflected in the provisions of paragraph 1 (c) of draft resolution II in paragraph 182 below.



# FIRST READING OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES

171. At its 1301st, 1308th, 1310th, 1311th, 1317th, 1319th, 1320th, 1321st, 1323rd, 1324th and 1331st meetings, the Fifth Committee voted in first reading on the budget estimates for 1970.

172. The first reading decisions were taken on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/7608) with regard to the initial estimates submitted by the Secretary-General (A/7606), and the revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions (A/C.5/1231 and Corr.1 and 2, A/7710).

173. In his initial estimates (A/7608), the Secretary-General had proposed a gross expenditure budget of \$164,123,200 and total estimates of income in the amount of \$28,742,000. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (A/7606) recommended a total appropriation of \$162,821,600 and estimates of income in the amount of \$28,705,500. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the decisions of the Economic and Social Council required a total additional appropriation of \$567,900 as follows:

	<u>Expenditure section</u>	<u>Amount</u> \$
Revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Economic and Social Council at its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions	1	50,400
	2	170,000
	3	138,000
	5	3,600
	10	15,900
	17	190,000
	Total	<u>567,900</u>

174. The results of the decisions taken by the Committee in first reading on individual expenditure and income sections were as follows:

<u>Appropriation section</u>	<u>Recommended appropriation</u> \$	<u>In favour</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
1. Travel and other expenses of representatives, numbers of commissions, committees and other subsidiary bodies	1,425,700	Unanimously approved		
2. Special meetings and conferences	1,420,000	Unanimously approved		
3. Salaries and wages	73,545,000	66	9	0
4. Common staff costs	17,300,000	58	0	7
5. Travel of staff	2,271,900	75	0	10
6. Payments under annex I, paragraphs 2 and 5, of the Staff Regulations; hospitality	145,000	Unanimously approved		
7. Buildings and improvements to premises	5,088,800	Unanimously approved		
8. Permanent equipment	780,000	Unanimously approved		
9. Maintenance, operation and rental of premises	5,303,600	84	0	1
10. General expenses	5,605,900	68	0	13
11. Printing	2,704,800	Unanimously approved		
12. Special expenses	9,287,400	61	10	18
13.) } Technical programmes <sup>a/</sup>	6,908,600	66	6	2
14.) }				
15. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	8,704,400	Unanimously approved		
16. United Nations Industrial Development Organization	10,255,000	Unanimously approved		
17. Special missions	7,108,300	63	9	7
18. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	4,145,100	69	0	9
19. International Court of Justice	1,390,000	Unanimously approved		
Total	163,389,500			

<sup>a/</sup> See para. 177 below.

<u>Income section</u>	<u>Recommended estimates</u> \$	<u>In favour</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
1. Staff assessment income	18,928,000	Unanimously approved		
2. Funds provided from extra-budgetary accounts	2,436,400	Unanimously approved		
3. General income	4,073,500	Unanimously approved		
4. Revenue-producing activities	<u>3,267,600</u>	Unanimously approved		
Total	<u>28,705,500</u>			

175. The observations made and reservations expressed by delegations in explanation of the vote during the first reading of the budget estimates are recorded in the summary records of the meetings at which the votes were taken.

#### SECOND READING OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES

176. The first reading decisions taken by the Committee at its 1301st, 1308th, 1310th, 1311th, 1317th, 1319th, 1320th, 1321st, 1323rd, 1324th and 1331st meetings were affected by subsequent actions taken on the basis of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on certain revised estimates submitted by the Secretary-General under various sections of the budget (A/7769, A/7864, A/7879, A/7806 and A/7891) as well as on the appropriations required for the implementation of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its current session on the recommendations of other Main Committees.

177. Following the decision taken by the General Assembly in its resolution 2514 (XXIV) at its 1817th plenary meeting, the programme provided for under former sections 13, 15 and 16 under Part V (Technical programmes) have been combined under section 13. For practical reasons involving the minimum number of changes to the account codes used for the recording of expenditures under the various sections of the budget, the former sections 20 and 21 have been renumbered 15 and 16 respectively.

178. The final requirements under the various sections of the budget are enumerated below:

Appropri-  
ation  
section

	\$	\$
1 First reading decision taken at 1308th meeting.	1,425,700	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting [A/C.5/1279, A/7864].	<u>70,800</u>	<u>1,496,500</u>
2 First reading decision taken at 1308th meeting.	1,420,000	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting [A/C.5/1279, A/7864].	80,000	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
United Nations Conference on the Human Environment [A/C.5/1252, A/7760, A/7784].	171,200	
Special Committee on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States [A/C.5/1273, A/7831, A/7829, General Assembly resolution 2533 (XXIV)].	100,000	
Special Committee on the Question of Defining Aggression [A/C.5/1278, A/7838, A/7861, General Assembly resolution 2549 (XXIV)].	103,200	
Committee on the Peaceful Uses of the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor Beyond the Limits of National Jurisdiction [A/C.5/1288, A/C.5/SR.1345, A/7914].	100,000	
Fourth International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy [A/7823/Rev.2, A/7855, A/7868].	<u>116,600</u>	<u>2,091,000</u>

Appropriation  
section

	\$	\$
3 First reading decision taken at 1323rd meeting.	73,545,000	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>[A/C.5/1279, A/7864]</u> .	1,707,450	
Headquarters accommodation: rental of outside office and storage space - revised estimates adopted at 1336th meeting <u>[A/C.5/1254/Rev.1, A/7769]</u> .	24,775	
Revised estimate covering additional staffing requirements for the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs approved at 1350th meeting <u>[A/C.5/1275, A/7879]</u> .	73,100	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
The policies of apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa <u>[A/C.5/1262, A/7775, A/7778 and Corr.1, General Assembly resolution 2506 B (XXIV)]</u> .	8,650	
Special programme of activities in connexion with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples <u>[A/C.5/1258, A/7790, A/7801, General Assembly resolution 2521 (XXIV)]</u> .	8,000	
Comprehensive study of the taxation system in developing countries <u>[A/C.5/1277, A/7836, A/7859, General Assembly resolution 2562 (XXIV)]</u> .	25,000	
Comprehensive study of the special problems of the least developed among the developing countries <u>[A/C.5/1281, A/C.5/SR.1346, A/7859, General Assembly resolution 2564 (XXIV)]</u> .	8,000	
Study on the marine environment and coastal areas and prevention and control of marine pollution <u>[A/C.5/1282, A/7844, A/7859, General Assembly resolution 2566 (XXIV)]</u> .	22,000	
Recommendations of the ECPC to provide secretariat assistance to the reconstituted Committee on Programme and Co-ordination <u>[A/C.5/1285 and Corr.1, A/7880, A/7897]</u> .	40,500	
Question of general and complete disarmament <u>[A/C.5/1289 and Corr.1, A/C.5/SR.1348, A/7885]</u> .	37,850	
Respect for Human Rights in Armed Conflicts <u>[A/C.5/1295, A/7892, A/7910]</u> .	17,500	
Report of the Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space <u>[A/C.5/1280, A/C.5/SR.1352, A/7901]</u> .	28,500	75,546,325



Appropri-  
ation  
section

		\$	\$
4	First reading decision taken at 1308th meeting.	17,300,000	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	197,600	
	Headquarters accommodation: rental of outside office and storage space - revised estimate approved at 1336th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1254/Rev.1, A/7769/</u> .	4,575	
	Revised estimates covering additional staffing requirements for the Office of the Assistant Secretary- General for Inter-Agency Affairs approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1275, A/7879/</u> .	29,600	
	<u>Financial implications</u>		
	The policies of <u>apartheid</u> of the Government of the Republic of South Africa <u>/A/C.5/1262, A/7775, A/7778</u> and Corr.1, General Assembly resolution 2506 B (XXIV) <u>/</u> .	500	
	Recommendations of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to provide secretariat assistance to the reconstituted Committee on Programme and Co-ordination <u>/A/C.5/1285 and Corr.1,</u> <u>A/7880, A/7891/</u> .	8,000	
	Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space <u>/A/C.5/1280, A/C.5/SR.1352, A/7901/</u> .	<u>9,000</u>	17,549,275
5	First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting.	2,271,900	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	23,000	
	Additional staffing requirements for the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1275,</u> <u>A/7879/</u> .	5,000	
	<u>Financial implications</u>		
	Study of the marine environment and coastal areas and prevention and control of marine pollution <u>/A/C.5/1282,</u> <u>A/7844, A/7859, General Assembly resolution</u> <u>2566 (XXIV)/</u> .	3,000	
	Recommendations of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to provide secretariat assistance to the reconstituted Committee on Programme and Co-ordination <u>/A/C.5/1285 and Corr.1, A/7880,</u> <u>A/7891/</u> .	6,500	
	Respect for Human Rights in Armed Conflicts <u>/A/C.5/1295, A/7892, A/7910/</u> .	2,500	
	Report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space <u>/A/C.5/1280, A/C.5/SR.1352, A/7901/</u> .	<u>2,500</u>	2,314,400

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Appropri-  
ation  
section

	\$	\$
6 First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting.	145,000	145,000
7 First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting.	5,083,800	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting /A/C.5/1279, A/78647.	(21,200)	
Revised estimates relating to United Nations accommodation in Bangkok and Addis Ababa - approved at 1342nd meeting /A/C.5/1264 and 1265, A/78067.	100,000	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
Installation of mechanical means of voting /A/7737, A/7755, A/7771, General Assembly resolution 2519 (XXIV)7.	35,000	5,202,600
8 First reading decisions taken at 1301st meeting.	780,000	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting /A/C.5/1279, A/78647.	12,200	
Headquarters accommodation: rental of outside office and storage space - revised estimate approved at 1336th meeting /A/C.5/1254/Rev.1, A/77697.	14,000	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
Recommendations of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to provide secretariat assistance to the reconstituted Committee on Programme and Co-ordination /A/C.5/1285 and Corr.1, A/7880, A/78977.	13,800	820,000
9 First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting.	5,303,600	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting /A/C.5/1279, A/78647.	23,300	
Headquarters accommodation: rental of outside office and storage space - revised estimate approved at 1336th meeting /A/C.5/1254/Rev.1, A/77697.	251,650	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
Recommendations of the Enlarged Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to provide secretariat assistance to the reconstituted Committee on Programme and Co-ordination /A/C.5/1285 and Corr.1, A/7880, A/78977.	6,400	5,584,950

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Appropri-  
ation  
section

	\$	\$
10 First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting.	5,605,900	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864</u> 7.	11,000	
Headquarters accommodation: rental of outside office and storage space - revised estimate approved at 1336th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1254/Rev.1, A/7769</u> 7.	30,000	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
The policies of <u>apartheid</u> of the Government of the Republic of South Africa <u>/A/C.5/1262, A/7775, A/7778, and Corr.1, General Assembly resolution 2506 B (XXIV)</u> 7.	36,600	
Special programme of activities in connexion with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples - <u>/A/C.5/1258, A/7790, A/7801, General Assembly resolution 2521 (XXIV)</u> 7.	1,500	
Recommendations of the Enlarged Committee on Programme and Co-ordination to provide secretariat assistance to the reconstituted Committee on Programme and Co-ordination <u>/A/C.5/1285 and Corr.1, A/7880, A/7897</u> 7.	300	
Question of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons <u>/A/C.5/1293, A/C.5/SR.1348, A/7893</u> 7.	<u>14,300</u>	5,699,600
11 First reading decision taken at 1311th meeting.	2,704,800	
Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864</u> 7.	40,500	
<u>Financial implications</u>		
United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session <u>/A/C.5/1244, A/7748, A/7761, General Assembly resolution 2502 (XXIV)</u> 7.	25,000	

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Appropri-  
ation  
section

\$

\$

Special programme of activities in connexion with the tenth anniversary of the Declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples A/C.5/1258, A/7790, A/7801, General Assembly resolution 2521 (XXIV)/.

39,000

Question of general and complete disarmament A/C.5/1289 and Corr.1, A/C.5/SR.1348, A/7885/.

47.150

2,856,450

- 12 First reading decision taken at 1320th meeting.

9,287,400

Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting A/C.5/1279, A/7864/.

(96,700)

Revised estimate covering additional staffing requirements for the Office of the Assistant Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs approved at 1350th meeting A/C.5/1275, A/7872/.

15,000

Financial implications

Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations A/C.5/1243, A/C.5/SR.1308, A/7713, General Assembly resolution 2499 (XXIV)/.

197,000

United Nations educational and training programme for Southern Africa A/C.5/1287, A/C.5/SR.1348, A/7873, General Assembly resolution 2557 (XXIV)/.

100.000

9,502,700

- 13 First reading decision taken at 1331st meeting A/C.5/1260, A/7776, A/7779, General Assembly resolution 2514 (XXIV)/.

5.408.600

5,408,600

- 14 First reading decision taken at 1331st meeting A/C.5/1260, A/7779, General Assembly resolution 2511 (XXIV)/.

1.500.000

1,500,000

Appropriation  
Section

		\$	\$
15	First reading decision taken at 1317th meeting	8,704,400	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	<u>206,800</u>	8,911,200
16	First reading decision taken at 1319th meeting	10,255,000	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	<u>178,000</u>	10,433,000
17	First reading decision taken at 1311th meeting	7,108,300	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	400,000	
	Question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms - revised estimate approved at 1351st meeting <u>/A/C.5/1294, A/7891/</u> .	45,000	
	<u>Financial implications</u>		
	The policies of <u>apartheid</u> of the Government of the Republic of South Africa <u>/A/C.5/1262, A/7775, A/7778 and Corr.1, General Assembly resolution 2506 B (XXIV)/</u> .	5,000	
	Question of Namibia <u>/A/C.5/1269, A/7794, A/7798, General Assembly resolution 2517 (XXIV)/</u> .	<u>60,000</u>	7,618,300
18	First reading decision taken at 1321st meeting	4,145,100	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	<u>125,000</u>	4,270,100
19	First reading decision taken at 1311th meeting	1,390,000	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting <u>/A/C.5/1279, A/7864/</u> .	<u>80,000</u>	<u>1,470,000</u>
	Total		<u>168,420,000</u>



<u>Income</u>		\$	\$
<u>Section</u>			
1	First reading decision taken at 1324th meeting	18,928,000	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting [A/C.5/1279, A/7864]	<u>252,000</u>	19,180,000
2	First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting	2,436,400	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting [A/C.5/1279, A/7864]	<u>15,000</u>	2,451,400
3	First reading decisions taken at 1301st meeting	4,073,500	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting [A/C.5/1279, A/7864]	<u>100,000</u>	4,173,500
4	First reading decision taken at 1301st meeting	3,267,600	
	Revised estimates approved at 1350th meeting [A/C.5/1279, A/7864]	<u>14,500</u>	
<u>Financial implications</u>			
	Celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations [A/C.5/1243, A/C.5/SR.1308, A/7713, General Assembly resolution 2499 (XXIV)]	35,000	
	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its second session [A/C.5/1244, A/7748, A/7761, General Assembly resolution 2502 (XXIV)]	<u>2,125</u>	<u>3,319,225</u>
	Total		<u>29,124,125</u>

179. At its 1353rd meeting, the Committee considered the second reading of the budget estimates for the financial year 1970. The results of the voting were as follows:

<u>Appropriation section</u>	<u>Recommended appropriation</u> \$	<u>In favour</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstentions</u>
1	1,496,500	Unanimously approved		
2	2,091,000	Unanimously approved		
3	75,546,325	65	11	0
4	17,549,275	68	0	11
5	2,314,400	69	0	11
6	145,000	Unanimously approved		
7	5,202,600	77	0	2
8	820,000	Unanimously approved		
9	5,584,950	Unanimously approved		
10	5,699,600	69	0	12
11	2,856,450	Unanimously approved		
12	9,502,700	65	10	7
13	5,408,600	71	8	2
14	1,500,000	60	9	14
15	8,911,200	80	1	0
16	10,433,000	83	1	0
17	7,618,300	67	11	6
18	4,270,100	78	0	7
19	<u>1,470,000</u>	Unanimously approved		
Total	<u>168,420,000</u>	71	6	5
<u>Income section</u>				
1	19,180,000	Unanimously approved		
2	2,451,400	Unanimously approved		
3	4,173,500	Unanimously approved		
4	<u>3,319,225</u>	Unanimously approved		
Total income	<u>29,124,125</u>	Unanimously approved		

ESTABLISHED POSTS

180. The decisions of the Committee under sections 3, 15, 16, 18 and 19 and under income sections 3 and 4 involved the approval of established posts for the various departments and activities covered by these sections as follows:

Section 3 <sup>a</sup>		Section 15	Section 16	Section 18	Section 19	Income Section 3	Income Section 4	Total
Category and level	Salaries and Wages	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	International Court of Justice	Revenue-producing activities <sup>c</sup>	Revenue-producing activities <sup>d</sup>	
<b>I. Secretary-General</b>								
Under-Secretary-General	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Assistant Secretary-General	10	1	1	1	-	-	-	13
General Director	11	-	-	-	1	-	-	12
Principal Officer	53	8	6	3	1	-	-	71
	130	13	15	5	-	-	1	164
<b>II. Professional</b>								
Senior Officer	317	31	47	24	4	-	4	427
First Officer	619	56	84	27	3	-	4	793
Second Officer	784	74	85	26	2	1	8	980
Associate and Assistant Officer	455	24	36	24	5	-	11	555
Total I and II	2,380	207	274	110	16	1	28	3,016
<b>III. General Service</b>								
Principal level	316	13	-	7	-	-	14	350
Other levels	2,246	255	324	191	18	3	99	3,136
Total III	2,562	268	324	198	18	3	113	3,486

Section 3 <sup>a</sup>		Section 15	Section 16	Section 18	Section 19	Income Section 3	Income Section 4	Total
Category and level	Salaries and Wages	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	International Court of Justice	Revenue-producing activities	Revenue-producing activities	
		and Development						
IV. Local level	1,074	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,074
V. Manual Workers	286	-	86	-	-	-	-	372
Total I, II, III, IV and V	6,302	475 <sup>b</sup>	684	308	34	4	141	7,948

a/ Established posts for departments and offices at Headquarters: United Nations Office at Geneva; Information Centres; the secretariats of the United Nations Economic and Social Office in Beirut, and of the Economic Commissions for Africa (ECA), for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE), and for Latin America (ECLA) and the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board.

b/ Excludes 38 Professional and 47 General Service posts relating to the Joint UNCTAD/GATT International Trade Centre.

c/ Established posts for the Garage Administration.

d/ Established posts for the United Nations Postal Administration, Sales Section and Visitors' Service at Headquarters and Geneva and for Commercial Management Service at Headquarters.

Draft resolutions for 1970

181. At its 1354th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution I (A, B and C), II and III contained in paragraph 182 below. The voting was as follows:

	<u>In favour</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Draft resolution I A . . . . .	52	5	7
B . . . . .	67	0	0
C . . . . .	60	4	3
Draft resolution II . . . . .	58	9	0
Draft resolution III . . . . .	61	0	9

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Budget for the financial year 1970

A

Budget appropriations for the financial year 1970

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the financial year 1970:

1. Appropriations totalling \$US168,420,000 are hereby voted for the following purposes:

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		(US dollars)
<u>Part</u>	I. <u>Sessions of the General Assembly, the Councils, commissions and committees: special meetings and conferences</u>	
1.	Travel and other expenses of representatives and members of commissions, committees and other subsidiary bodies	1,496,500
2.	Special meetings and conferences	<u>2,091,000</u>
TOTAL, PART I		3,587,500

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(US dollars)

<u>Part</u>	II.	<u>Staff costs and related activities</u>		
3.		Salaries and wages	75,546,325	
4.		Common staff costs	17,549,275	
5.		Travel of staff	2,314,400	
6.		Payments under annex I, paragraphs 2 and 5 of the Staff Regulations; hospitality	<u>145,000</u>	
		TOTAL, PART II		95,555,000
<u>Part</u>	III.	<u>Premises, equipment, supplies and services</u>		
7.		Buildings and improvements to premises	5,202,600	
8.		Permanent equipment	820,000	
9.		Maintenance, operation and rental of premises	5,584,950	
10.		General expenses	5,699,600	
11.		Printing	<u>2,856,450</u>	
		TOTAL, PART III		20,163,600
<u>Part</u>	IV.	<u>Special expenses</u>		
12.		Special expenses	<u>9,502,700</u>	
		TOTAL, PART IV		9,502,700
<u>Part</u>	V.	<u>Technical programmes</u>		
13.		Economic development, social development and public administration; human rights advisory services, and narcotic drugs control	5,408,600	
14.		Industrial development	<u>1,500,000</u>	
		TOTAL, PART V		6,908,600

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(US dollars)

<u>Part</u>	VI.	<u>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development</u>		
15.		United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	<u>8,911,200</u>	
		TOTAL, PART VI		8,911,200
<u>Part</u>	VII.	<u>United Nations Industrial Development Organization</u>		
16.		United Nations Industrial Development Organization	<u>10,433,000</u>	
		TOTAL, PART VII		10,433,000
<u>Part</u>	VIII.	<u>Special missions and related activities</u>		
17.		Special missions	<u>7,618,300</u>	
		TOTAL, PART VIII		7,618,300
<u>Part</u>	IX.	<u>Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</u>		
18.		Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	<u>4,270,100</u>	
		TOTAL, PART IX		4,270,100
<u>Part</u>	X.	<u>International Court of Justice</u>		
19.		International Court of Justice	<u>1,470,000</u>	
		TOTAL, PART X		<u>1,470,000</u>
		GRAND TOTAL		<u>168,420,000</u>

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2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. The appropriations for technical assistance programmes under part V shall be administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, except that the definition of obligations and the period of validity of obligations shall be in accordance with the procedures and practices established for the Technical Assistance component of the United Nations Development Programme;

4. The provisions under sections 1, 3, 5 and 11, in a total amount of \$256,460, relating to the International Narcotics Control Board, shall be administered as a unit;

5. In addition to the appropriations voted under paragraph 1 above, an amount of \$19,000 is appropriated from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

Income estimates for the financial year 1970

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the financial year 1970:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling \$US29,124,125 are approved as follows:

<u>Income section</u>		(US dollars)
<u>Part</u>	<u>I. Income from staff assessment</u>	
1.	Staff assessment income	<u>19,180,000</u>
	TOTAL, PART I	19,180,000
<u>Part</u>	<u>II. Other income</u>	
2.	Funds provided from extra-budgetary accounts	2,451,400
3.	General income	4,173,500
4.	Revenue-producing activities	<u>3,319,225</u>
	TOTAL, PART II	<u>9,944,125</u>
	GRAND TOTAL	<u>29,124,125</u>

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, and the sale of publications, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

Financing of appropriations for the financial year 1970

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the financial year 1970:

1. Budget appropriations totalling \$US168,420,000, together with supplementary appropriations for 1969 totalling \$2,052,050, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations as follows:

(a) As to \$9,944,125 by income other than staff assessment approved under resolution B above;

(b) As to \$947,820, by the amount available in the surplus account for the financial year 1968;

(c) Less \$253,290, by the revised income other than staff assessment for 1969;

(d) As to \$159,333,395, by assessment on Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 2291 (XXII) of 8 December 1967 and 2472 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968 on the scale of assessments for the financial years 1968, 1969 and 1970;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective shares in the Tax Equalization Fund in a total amount of \$18,967,443 comprising:

(a) \$19,180,000 being the estimated staff assessment income for 1970;

(b) \$252,443, being the excess of actual income over the approved estimates income from staff assessment for 1968;

(c) Less \$465,000, being the decrease in the revised income from staff assessment for 1969.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1970

The General Assembly

1. Authorizes the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses in the financial year 1970, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(a) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of \$US2 million, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(b) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the Court, Article 31), not exceeding a total of \$37,500;

(ii) The appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), or the calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50), not exceeding a total of \$25,000;

(iii) The holding of sessions of the Court away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of \$75,000;

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of operative paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2435 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968:

(i) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of \$150,000, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to emergency aid in connexion with natural disasters, with a normal ceiling of \$15,000 per country in the case of any one disaster, on the understanding that the Secretary-General would have the authority to grant a maximum of \$20,000 at his discretion;

(ii) Such commitments, within the total of \$150,000 noted in paragraph 1 (c) (i) above, in amounts not exceeding \$10,000 per country for assistance to Governments, at their request, in the elaboration of plans to meet natural disasters;

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2. Resolves that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth session all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. Decides that if, as a result of a decision of the Security Council, commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security should arise in an estimated total exceeding \$10 million before the twenty-fifth session of the General Assembly, a special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1970

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the year ending 31 December 1970 in the amount of \$US40 million;
2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Members to the budget for the financial year 1970;
3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:
  - (a) Credits to Members resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in a total amount of \$1,079,158;
  - (b) Cash advances paid by Members to the Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1969 under General Assembly resolution 2434 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968;
4. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:
  - (a) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose;
  - (b) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments which may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 2614 (XXIV) of 17 December 1969 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;
  - (c) Such sums as, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed \$150,000, to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities; advances in excess of the total of \$150,000 may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

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(d) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the financial year in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each year, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each such year;

(e) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

5. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize in 1970, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved in General Assembly resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.

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DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

United Nations accommodations in Bangkok and Addis Ababa

The General Assembly,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General dealing with United Nations accommodations in Bangkok<sup>1/</sup> and Addis Ababa<sup>2/</sup> and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;<sup>3/</sup>
2. Concurs in the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, contained in paragraphs 29-35 of its report;
3. Authorizes the Secretary-General, bearing in mind those observations and recommendations, to proceed in accordance with the proposals contained in his reports.<sup>4/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> A/C.5/1264.

<sup>2/</sup> A/C.5/1265.

<sup>3/</sup> A/7806.

<sup>4/</sup> A/C.5/1264, para. 15, and A/C.5/1265, para. 23.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Study of the nature of the increases in the level of  
expenditure in the United Nations regular budget

The General Assembly,

Noting the concern expressed by some Member States regarding the expansion in the level of the United Nations budget,

Mindful of the need for intensified efforts to bring about the most economic and efficient utilization of the resources of the United Nations in the light of the normal expansion in the activities of the United Nations,

Convinced that it is inappropriate to control growth in programmes through limitations on budgetary levels, particularly at a time when new areas eminently suited for international co-operation and action continue to emerge,

Conscious of the need to have a clear and objective picture of the various factors that have contributed to the expansion of the United Nations budget in the past,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session an economic and financial analysis of the nature of the increase in the activities, staff and budget of the United Nations, clearly distinguishing between the increase in money terms and that in real terms, taking into account, to the extent possible, inter alia, the following factors:

(a) The reduction in the purchasing power of the amounts contributed by Member States to the regular budget of the United Nations as a result of a general rise in the cost of goods and services and the rise in the cost of living at the locations of principal United Nations offices;

(b) The correlation between:

- (i) The rise in the contributions to the regular budgets of the United Nations and the specialized agencies as well as to international programmes within the United Nations system for promoting the economic development of the developing countries; and
- (ii) The rise in the level of national budgets with particular reference to the rate of expansion of the national administrative establishments and the level and growth of the gross national products of States contributing more than 1 per cent of the regular budget of the United Nations;



(c) The growth in the traditional and the new fields of activity of the United Nations in carrying out its responsibilities in promoting international co-operation in the areas of economic and social development;

(d) The extent of the increase in the United Nations regular budget as a result of:

- (i) The increase in the membership of the Organization;
- (ii) The increase in the number of working languages;
- (iii) The wider experience and higher qualifications of personnel now required by the Organization, particularly for its development work because of the growing complexity and inter-disciplinary character that the developmental problems have come to acquire.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

New construction and major alterations to existing premises  
at Headquarters

The General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 2487 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968 which authorized the Secretary-General to proceed, at an estimated cost to the United Nations of \$250,000 in 1969, with the preparation of detailed plans and specifications on which reliable cost estimates could be based,

Noting the subsequent reports of the Secretary-General<sup>5/</sup> and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions<sup>6/</sup> on proposed new construction and major alterations to existing premises at Headquarters,

Recognizing that there is currently an acute space shortage at United Nations Headquarters as well as at many other major United Nations locations and that the existing circumstances preclude any immediate relief except through new construction,

Convinced that the assistance of the host country is urgently needed to help resolve the considerable difficulties which exist for delegations and staff in New York in acquiring and retaining suitable and moderately priced office and residential accommodations in convenient locations,

Aware that many factors must be considered in determining the optimum locations at which additional construction should be undertaken, including the interrelationships between the organizational units of the United Nations, inflationary pressures, including cost-of-living factors, and the like,

Convinced also that all the possibilities of relocating units of the United Nations now or in the near future, in the context of the existing need to build at all major United Nations locations, have not yet been fully explored,

Expressing its appreciation to those other sources that have indicated or may indicate a willingness to bear a substantial cost of the proposed Headquarters construction,

<sup>5/</sup> A/C.5/1246 and Add.1.

<sup>6/</sup> A/7835.

Welcoming the assurances given by the Government of the United States of America, as the host country of the United Nations Headquarters, that it will immediately seek accession to the Convention on Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,<sup>7/</sup>

1. Decides to authorize the Secretary-General to proceed with the execution of the project on the basis set forth in paragraph 26 of his report,<sup>8/</sup> taking into account the related observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;

2. Further decides that the United Nations budgetary appropriations for the purpose of the Headquarters project should not in any circumstances exceed \$25 million to be spread over a period of ten years beginning in 1971;

3. Notes with interest the Secretary-General's report<sup>9/</sup> on space requirements and developments over the next twenty years, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a more complete study of the possibilities of distributing Secretariat functions between Headquarters in New York, the United Nations Office at Geneva, or any other location which may be appropriate, bearing in mind not only the construction projects in progress or envisaged but other pertinent factors as well, and requests him to submit the study to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a systematic inquiry into the possibility and desirability of relocating all or part of certain units of the United Nations, bearing in mind the efficiency of the operations of the Secretariat and, for this purpose, to employ the early years of the coming decade, in effective consultation with the appropriate government authorities, in choosing potential locations for United Nations units other than in already established major United Nations centres;

5. Decides accordingly that before further construction, beyond that authorized by this and prior decisions of the General Assembly, takes place in New York or Geneva, a full inquiry shall be made into the possibility and desirability of relocating units elsewhere;

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<sup>7/</sup> General Assembly resolution 22 A (I).

<sup>8/</sup> A/C.5/1246.

<sup>9/</sup> A/C.5/1263.

6. Urges the host country to undertake an examination of those conditions which adversely affect the delegations and staff of the United Nations in New York and to consider taking all the necessary measures to alleviate the effect of such conditions;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to reconstitute and convene on a regular basis the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations so that there will be a continuous interchange of views and exploration of problems between the diplomatic community, the Secretariat and the host Government on matters of mutual interest, and to report the results thereof to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session and annually thereafter;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at the beginning of its twenty-fifth session, on all developments in connexion with the present resolution.

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