

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/9975
16 December 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth session
Agenda item 106

TRANSLATION OF SOME OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND OF RESOLUTIONS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL INTO THE GERMAN LANGUAGE

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahmoud M. OSMAN (Egypt)

1. At its 2236th plenary meeting, on 21 September 1974, the General Assembly decided to allocate to the Fifth Committee for its consideration agenda item 106, entitled "Translation of some official documents of the General Assembly and of resolutions of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council into the German language".
2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 1691st and 1692nd meetings, on 12 and 13 December 1974, at which time it had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Letter from the representatives of Austria, the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/9705);
 - (b) Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure setting out the administrative and financial implications of the proposal contained in document A/9705 (A/C.5/1617/Rev.1);
 - (c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal contained in document A/9705 (A/9608/Add.13).
3. At its 1691st meeting, on 12 December, the following draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1189) was submitted by Austria, the German Democratic Republic and Germany (Federal Republic of):

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the question of the translation of some official documents of the General Assembly and of resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council into the German language,

"Noting with appreciation the assurances given by Austria, the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to make additional contributions towards meeting expenses resulting from the present resolution,

"Decides that, pursuant to rule 57 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, as well as the other supplements to its official records, and the resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council shall be issued in the German language as of 1 July 1975."

4. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions said that in the first sentence of paragraph 8 of its fourteenth report (A/9608/Add.13), the Advisory Committee had understood the statement made in the letter addressed to the Secretary-General on 14 November 1974 by the Governments of Austria, the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany to mean that the three Governments were prepared, until further review, to contribute collectively to cover the costs which would result from the adoption of the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1189).

5. In paragraph 10 of the same report (A/9608/Add.13), the Advisory Committee agreed with the procedure proposed by the Secretary-General in his statement (A/C.5/1617/Rev.1) and approved the estimates on the understanding that adoption of the draft resolution would not impose any present or prospective charge on the regular budget of the United Nations.

6. At the 1692nd meeting, on 13 December, taking into account the oral comments and suggestions made by representatives during the 1691st and 1692nd meetings, the three co-sponsors agreed to bring the second preambular paragraph of their draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1189) into line with the wording of the first sentence of paragraph 8 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/9608/Add.13) and to make it operative paragraph 1 instead. The amended paragraph read as follows:

"Notes with appreciation the assurances given by Austria, the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany that they are prepared, until further review, to contribute collectively to cover the costs resulting from the present resolution."

7. Replying to a query as to how the Secretary-General would interpret the phrase "until further review" in the orally revised second preambular paragraph of the draft resolution, the representative of the Secretary-General stated that it was clear that no unilateral action to alter the financial arrangement proposed in the revised draft resolution could be taken by any of the parties concerned. Any such circumstance would necessitate consultation before any change could be put forward for consideration by the General Assembly.

8. Comments made by representatives in explanation of vote are reflected in the summary record of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/SR.1692).

9. At its 1692nd meeting, on 13 December, the Fifth Committee decided, by consensus, to recommend to the General Assembly that it should adopt the draft resolution (A/C.5/L.1189) as orally amended (see para. 10 below). It also decided, without objection, to recommend to the General Assembly that it should take note of the Advisory Committee's report (A/9608/Add.13) and concur with the observations contained in paragraphs 8 and 10 therein (see para. 11 below). /...

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

10. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Translation of some official documents of the General Assembly
and of resolutions of the Security Council and the Economic and
Social Council into the German language

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the translation of some official documents of the General Assembly and of resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council into the German language,

1. Notes with appreciation the assurances given by Austria, the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany that they are prepared, until further review, to contribute collectively to cover the costs resulting from the present resolution;

2. Decides that, pursuant to rule 57 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, as well as the other supplements to its official records, and the resolutions and decisions of the Security Council and of the Economic and Social Council shall be issued in the German language as from 1 July 1975.

11. The Fifth Committee also recommends that the General Assembly should:

(a) Take note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 1/

(b) Concur with the observations contained in paragraphs 8 and 10 therein.

1/ A/9608/Add.13.