



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/9899
3 December 1974

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-ninth session
Agenda items 60 and 73

ASSISTANCE IN CASES OF NATURAL DISASTER AND OTHER
DISASTER SITUATIONS

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975

Consideration of the economic and social situation in the
Sudano-Sahelian region stricken by drought and measures
to be taken for the benefit of that region

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
recommended by the Second Committee (A/9853/Add.1, para. 9)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahmoud M. OSMAN (Egypt)

1. At its 1680th meeting, on 3 December 1974, the Fifth Committee considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/1635) concerning the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee in part II of its report on item 60 (A/9853/Add.1, para. 9).
2. Under operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution the General Assembly would recommend the establishment of a United Nations information centre at Ouagadougou, the headquarters of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel, in view of the need to obtain directly on the spot information designed to maintain and intensify to the widest possible extent public awareness of the tragedy which has befallen the Sudano-Sahelian countries and to sustain the momentum of active and involved interest in the successful implementation of the programme as outlined by the Permanent Inter-State Committee.
3. In his statement (A/C.5/1635) the Secretary-General indicated that the total costs for 1975 for the proposed information centre were estimated at \$72,000, for which provision would be required under section 27 B of the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975, comprising \$49,000 for salaries and common staff costs of the centre director and five locally recruited staff, \$8,000 for the rental and

maintenance of premises and other local costs, and \$15,000 for the one-time cost of purchase of office furniture and equipment, one vehicle and freight and installation charges.

4. In an oral report to the Fifth Committee, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions stated that the Advisory Committee had ascertained that the Secretary-General's estimates allowed for a deduction in respect of turnover which was higher for Professional staff than for General Service staff. In the view of the Advisory Committee, the deduction in respect of turnover for General Service staff should be increased to the same level as that estimated by the Secretary-General for Professional staff; this would result in a reduction of \$6,000 in the estimated requirements submitted by the Secretary-General. Consequently, the Advisory Committee estimated that the adoption of the draft resolution would require an additional appropriation of \$66,000 for 1975.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

5. The Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution recommended by the Second Committee (A/9853/Add.1, para. 9), an additional appropriation of \$66,000 would be required under section 27 B of the programme budget for the biennium 1974-1975.
