



Ninth session
Agenda items 46 (a) to (d)

UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. A. LIVERAN (Israel)

1. In accordance with the allocation of agenda items as decided by the General Assembly at its 478th meeting held on 25 September 1954, the Fifth Committee, at its 448th meeting on 1 November 1954, considered the following

"46. United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund:

- "(a) Annual report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board^{1/}
- "(b). Acceptance by the specialized agencies of the jurisdiction of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal in matters involving applications alleging non-observance of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund: report of the Secretary-General^{2/}
- "(c) Admission of staff members of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund: report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board^{3/}
- "(d) Revision of the administrative rules of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund: report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board^{4/}".

2. The Committee noted that point (d) of this item was included pursuant to the provision of article XXXVI of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund^{5/} which requires that the Joint Staff Pension Board make

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Supplement No.8, document A/2659.

2/ A/2749 and Add.1.

3/ A/2664.

4/ A/2690.

5/ See annex to General Assembly resolution 680 (VII) of 21 December 1952.

administrative rules necessary for carrying out the Regulations and report such rules to the General Assembly and to the competent organ of each member organization.

3. With regard to the annual report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, the Committee heard, from the Chairman of the Board, a summary of the operations of the Fund for the year ended 31 December 1953. No new organizations had joined the Fund, but the number of participants therein had increased by approximately 400 during the year, reaching a total of 8,562 participants. The principal of the Fund stood at \$37,220,000 on 31 December 1953, an increase of \$8,066,000 over the corresponding figure for 1952. The investments of the Fund totalled \$36,300,000 and had obtained, during 1953, an average yield of 2.98 per cent as against the 2.50 per cent minimum actuarial yield on which the Fund was based.

4. Certain observations and suggestions relative to the Fund's portfolio of investments were offered by the representative of Argentina. He also expressed satisfaction with the establishment of a reserve for interest equalization. He was, however, doubtful as to the adequacy of the reserve against principal losses. He further suggested that future reports of the Board might include a more complete analysis of changes in participation in the Fund, including reasons for separations.

5. In reply, the Chairman of the Joint Staff Pension Board, referring to the reserve against principal losses, stated that where the value of the Fund's investments was concerned, a reserve fund of \$22,000 might appear small in relation to the difference between the book and market values of those investments. However, the Fund normally purchased bonds in order to hold them until maturity, and it was therefore the book value of such investments that came into question. The reserve had been set up when the Fund had begun to purchase common stock and it had become necessary to have some safeguard against sales of stock necessitated by falls in prices. The reserve had been in existence for less than a year at the time of the report; it would increase in the normal course of its development.

6. The Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should take note of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (A/2659).

7. The Committee next considered the question of acceptance by the specialized agencies of the jurisdiction of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal in matters involving applications alleging non-observance of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund. Note was taken of the fact that consultations had been initiated with the specialized agencies concerned as to the form and content of the agreements to be concluded for that purpose, and as to the necessary administrative and financial arrangements. It was also noted that the Secretary-General hoped to be in a position to submit to the General Assembly, at its tenth session a report on agreed provisions which would give effect to the recommendation of the General Assembly on this question.^{6/} The Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly should take note of the interim report presented by the Secretary-General on the progress of the question (A/2749 and Add.1).

8. The Committee then considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the admission of staff members of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization to membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (A/2664). It was noted that action by the Joint Staff Pension Board on the admission and conditions of admission of staff members of ICITO had been taken in accordance with the decision taken by the General Assembly at its eighth session^{7/} and that the amendment to the Regulations of the Pension Fund now proposed by the Joint Staff Pension Board on which the Assembly was required to take action, was in pursuance of that same decision.

9. Several delegations stated that, on the question of principle concerning the admission of staff members of an organization which was not a specialized agency, they maintained the position which had determined their opposition to the proposal when it was considered at the eighth session of the General Assembly. They requested, therefore, that the amendment to the Regulations of the Fund proposed by the Joint Staff Pension Board should be put to the vote.

^{6/} See General Assembly resolution 678 (VII) of 21 December 1952.

^{7/} See General Assembly resolution 773 (VIII) of 27 November 1953.

10. A proposal to postpone consideration until after the current conference of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was withdrawn, following a discussion of the implications of General Assembly resolution 773 (VIII).

11. The Committee decided, by 28 votes to none, with 15 abstentions, to recommend to the General Assembly the approval of the amendment as proposed.

12. The Fifth Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

Draft resolution A

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF
PENSION BOARD

The General Assembly

Takes note of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for the year ended 31 December 1953.^{1/}

Draft resolution B

ACCEPTANCE BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF THE JURISDICTION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL IN MATTERS
INVOLVING APPLICATIONS ALLEGING NON-OBSERVANCE OF THE
REGULATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND

The General Assembly

Takes note of the interim report (A/2749 and Add.1) presented by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 771 (VIII) of 27 November 1953.

Draft resolution C

ADMISSION OF STAFF MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM COMMISSION FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION TO MEMBERSHIP IN THE UNITED
NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND: AMENDMENT TO THE REGULATIONS
OF THE FUND

The General Assembly

Approves the amendment of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund by the inclusion of a supplementary article as follows:

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Supplement No. 8, document A/2659.

SUPPLEMENTARY ARTICLE A

The Interim Commission for the International
Trade Organization

For the purpose of these Regulations, the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization shall be treated as if it were a specialized agency except that its representatives shall not have the right to vote in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and its Standing Committee.
