



GENERAL

A/1479
2 November 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifth session
Agenda item 21 (a) and (b)

FORMER ITALIAN COLONIES

- (a) REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSIONER IN LIBYA
- (b) REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTERING POWERS IN LIBYA

Financial implications of the draft resolution proposed
by the Ad Hoc Political Committee (A/1457)

Twelfth report of 1950 of the Advisory Committee on
Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. In accordance with a decision taken by the Fifth Committee at its 256th meeting on 27 October 1950, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered a report submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/392) on the financial implications of the draft resolution proposed by the Ad Hoc Political Committee in document A/1457.
2. The General Assembly, at its fourth regular session (1949), appropriated an amount of \$251,100 to cover the estimated expenses for 1950 of the Office of the United Nations Commissioner in Libya and of the Council for Libya.
3. The Advisory Committee has now received evidence to the effect that, on the basis of actual expenditure and obligations as at 30 September 1950, the revised figure for 1950 amounts to \$466,600, and that in this connexion the Secretary-General will find it necessary to meet the additional expenditure by a withdrawal from the Working Capital Fund under the provision of General Assembly resolution 357 (IV), paragraph (a). The Committee is of the opinion that, in the light of the expenditure incurred during the first nine months of 1950, the revised figure may prove to be an over-estimate.
4. The estimated expenditure for 1951 (\$619,300) shows a further sharp increase, due principally to the item for temporary assistance, which includes provision for 25 internationally recruited staff members, by comparison with the corresponding figures of 4 and 14 respectively in the original and in the revised

manning-tables for 1950. The Advisory Committee also draws attention to the fact that the item of \$314,400 for temporary assistance comprises the cost of replacement of only 50 per cent of the staff detailed from Headquarters; the direct gross salary costs of the remaining Headquarters staff temporarily serving with the Office of the Commissioner amount to approximately \$73,000.

5. The staffing proposals for 1951 include two posts for Deputy Principal Secretaries, four posts for political officers and seven posts for advisers on legal, agricultural and other technical matters. The Advisory Committee considers this provision to be unduly liberal, and recommends that one post of Deputy Principal Secretary (administrative) should in any event be eliminated. Further economies should be feasible, since the figure for temporary assistance is based on a full complement of staff for the whole of 1951 and, apart from probable delays in recruitment, the services of the technical advisers are not likely to be continuous throughout the year.

6. The Advisory Committee was informed that the Secretary-General proposes, in the case of the Office of the Commissioner in Libya, to introduce a system of post allowances at reduced rates, in place of the present subsistence allowances, to take effect after the completion of one year's service with the mission. The Committee concurs in this proposal, and it understands that a possible extension of the principle to other missions in which staff members serve under comparable conditions will be examined. Consideration might, in the opinion of the Committee, also be given to the reduction of the suggested initial period of one year for which the subsistence allowance would be payable.

7. The Advisory Committee had occasion to inquire into the provision made both in the revised 1950 budget and in the 1951 estimates for a post of deputy on technical assistance matters to the Principal Secretary. It was represented to the Committee that, while some of the expenditure for technical assistance to Libya under the terms of paragraph 4 of the draft resolution (A/1457) might, when approved, appropriately be charged to the special account for technical assistance, it would be desirable, in order to maintain a clear line of authority, that the officer dealing with these matters should be directly responsible to the Commissioner. In view of this consideration, as well as in the interest of a simple administrative relationship between the Administering Powers, the Office of the Commissioner and the Provisional Government, the Committee concurs in

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the proposed provision of \$12,830 for the above purpose. It suggests, however, that the position should be kept under review.

8. An item of \$7,200 for contractual printing is included in the estimate submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/392), in order to provide a comprehensive statement of expenditure. It is, however, proposed to transfer this amount from section 5, chapter VII, to section 25, chapter V, in which global provision is made for the contractual printing of official records of committees and commissions of investigation and inquiry.

9. The sum requested under section 5, chapter VII, accordingly amounts to \$612,100, and the Advisory Committee recommends that, on the basis of the observations made in paragraph 5 above, the estimate should be reduced by \$37,100. The resulting provision of \$575,000 may, in the opinion of the Committee, prove more than adequate, and some savings are likely in practice to ensue.

10. The salaries of the internationally recruited staff members of the Office of the Commissioner and of the temporary replacement staff at Headquarters are gross, and the offsetting revenue in respect of contributions under the Staff Assessment Plan is estimated at \$50,000.
