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Agenda item 45

EXPENSES OF THE PERMANENT GENERAL OPIUM BOARD: ASSESSMENT OF  
NON-MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, SIGNATORIES OF THE  
CONVENTION OF 19 FEBRUARY 1925 RELATING TO  
NARCOTIC DRUGS

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. B. G. FOURIE (Union of South Africa)

1. In accordance with instructions given by the General Assembly at its 285th plenary meeting, the Fifth Committee, at its 258th meeting held on 31 October 1950, considered the question of assessment of non-members of the United Nations which are signatories of the Convention of 19 February 1925 relating to Narcotic Drugs. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 353 (IV) the Secretary-General had submitted, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a report (A/1418) embodying the results of a comprehensive study of this question, regard being had to the total expenses incurred in connexion with the international administration of narcotic drugs and of such other functions or powers, the responsibility for which is shared by non-members of the United Nations under existing treaties. In addition to the report of the Secretary-General, the Fifth Committee had before it the observations thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/1461).
2. The Fifth Committee was informed that, exclusive of the costs relating to international administration in the field of narcotic drugs and the costs of the International Court of Justice which are already assessed in part against non-members of the United Nations, the Secretary-General was not able to select any expenses resulting from international treaties in respect of which he considered that he could recommend an assessment on non-member States. In the case, however, of international administration in the field of narcotic drugs the view was expressed by the Secretary-General that, in addition to direct meeting and

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secretariat costs of the Permanent Central Opium Board, certain other costs enumerated in his report might reasonably be deemed to comprise assessable expenditure towards which non-member States might be asked to contribute. The Advisory Committee indicated its concurrence in the recommendation made by the Secretary-General with respect to such expenditure, as well as in his provisional recommendation that the United Nations should include in its calculations similar expenses incurred by the World Health Organization, on the understanding that, should these proposals be approved, the United Nations would turn over to the World Health Organization its share of such collections.

3. As regards the scale of assessment to be applied to non-members of the United Nations, the Advisory Committee expressed the opinion that the first of the alternative methods proposed by the Secretary-General would be an equitable one, namely, that the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions, should establish the percentage contribution to be paid - this assessment being based on the same principles as those which are being used for the assessment of Member States in apportioning the expenses of the United Nations (i.e. the method presently used in assessing contributions of non-member States to the expenses of the International Court of Justice). An assurance was given by the Secretary-General in his report that, when seeking payment of contributions from non-member States, he would be guided by the resolutions of the General Assembly regulating the relationships with those States.

4. The Fifth Committee approved without discussion or objection the recommendation by the Advisory Committee that the draft resolution as submitted by the Secretary-General for the purpose of giving effect to his proposals should be adopted.

5. Accordingly, the Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolution:

**EXPENSES RESULTING FROM OBLIGATIONS PLACED ON THE UNITED NATIONS  
BY INSTRUMENTS RELATING TO THE CONTROL OF NARCOTIC DRUGS:  
ASSESSMENT OF NON-MEMBER STATES SIGNATORIES OF  
THOSE INSTRUMENTS**

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General to the fifth session of the General Assembly on the question of assessment of signatories of international instruments relating to the control of narcotic drugs, which  
/are non-members of

are non-members of the United Nations, for their fair share of expenses resulting from obligations placed on the United Nations by those instruments,

1. Approves the principle proposed by the Secretary-General for determining the expenses to be considered as assessable on such non-members;
2. Requests the Committee on Contributions to determine the rates at which such non-members should be assessed by the same method as that followed in determining the assessment of non-members which are parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice for their share of the expenses of the Court;
3. Directs the Secretary-General to seek payment of such amounts as are determined by the method established above in respect of the 1950 expenses and those of future years.

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