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DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991

Programme budget implications of the draft decision contained in paragraph 55 of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/44/48 and Corr.1)

Report of the Fifth CommitteeRapporteur: Mr. Etien NINOV (Bulgaria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 62nd to 65th meetings, on 28 and 29 March 1990, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/44/54) on the programme budget implications of the draft decision contained in the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/44/48 and Corr.1). The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman.
2. Statements and comments made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/44/SR.62-65).
3. At the 63rd meeting, on 28 March, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics introduced a draft decision which read as follows:

"The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly decide that the acceptance of the voluntary contribution of the Government of Switzerland in the form of free office accommodation should not be construed as the intention of the Assembly to establish at Geneva a permanent secretariat unit dealing with issues related to environment and development."

4. At its 65th meeting, on 29 March, the Fifth Committee, following informal consultations, decided to postpone consideration of that proposal to a more appropriate time.
5. At its 65th meeting, the Fifth Committee adopted, without a vote, the decision in paragraph 7 below.
6. At the same meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft decisions in paragraph 8 below.

II. DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

7. At its 65th meeting, the Fifth Committee decided, without a vote, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft decision contained in paragraph 55 of the report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (A/44/48 and Corr.1) and take appropriate action on other decisions and resolutions contained therein, additional requirements not exceeding \$6,392,500 would arise for the biennium 1990-1991 for non-conference servicing costs. For conference servicing costs, based on assumptions made by the Secretary-General and without prejudging the relevant decisions and programme of work of the Preparatory Committee, an amount of up to \$3,304,800 would be financed from within section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. In addition, an amount of up to \$1,246,200 would eventually have to be appropriated for the biennium 1990-1991 under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under Income Section I (Income from staff assessment). For 1992, non-conference servicing costs amounting to \$2,388,600 and conference servicing costs in the amount of \$1,715,000 would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

The General Assembly authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not exceeding \$6,392,500 for non-conference servicing costs in 1990-1991 in respect of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; requests the Secretary-General to review the resources required, including, *inter alia*, the numbers and grades of the proposed staff of the secretariat for the Conference at the three locations, taking into account their responsibilities at these locations and the mandate contained in Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, and in the light of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee and the views expressed by Member States, and to report the results to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session. Appropriations, as may be necessary, would be approved by the

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General Assembly towards the close of the forty-fifth session on the basis of a report to be submitted by the Secretary-General that would outline the actual and projected resource requirements, indicate the actual and potential impact on other ongoing activities and reflect the results of this review. It would also take into account offsetting savings which may materialize in the implementation of the 1990-1991 programme budget.

Bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 14, section II, of General Assembly resolution 44/228, such appropriations, as would be necessary, should have first call on the contingency fund as they relate to decisions taken by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session. Bearing in mind the contents of paragraph 4 of Assembly resolution 44/200 B of 21 December 1989, in which the Secretary-General was requested to submit a report to the Assembly at its forty-sixth session reviewing, *inter alia*, the use and operation of the contingency fund, the situation concerning the appropriations and the adequacy of the level of the contingency fund should be closely monitored in the course of the forty-fifth session.

DRAFT DECISION II

The General Assembly welcomes the offer of the Government of Switzerland to provide free office accommodation for the secretariat for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development which, in accordance with Assembly resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989, is only *ad hoc*; and further concurs with the request of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions relating to this matter (see A/C.5/44/SR.62).
