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Agenda item 72

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

Administrative and financial implications of the draft
resolution contained in document A/C.3/34/L.39

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance
with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General
Assembly

1. Under paragraph 3 of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/34/L.39, the General Assembly would decide to establish an Advisory Committee for the International Youth Year: Development and Peace, to be composed of 24 Member States nominated by the Chairman of the Third Committee of the General Assembly on the basis of equitable geographical distribution.
2. Under paragraph 4 of the same resolution, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare, in accordance with the proposals made by Member States and in consultation with all specialized agencies and interested international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, a draft programme for the preparation and observance of the International Youth Year.
3. Under paragraph 5 of the same resolution, the General Assembly would request the Advisory Committee to meet annually and to formulate, for consideration by the General Assembly, a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year on the basis of a draft programme prepared by the Secretary-General, and under paragraph 6, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to convene the Advisory Committee in 1980 and to submit the report on its first session to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session.
4. During the forthcoming biennium, the Advisory Committee would convene twice, once in 1980 and once in 1981. Taking into consideration the need to make adequate preparations for the Advisory Committee, the Secretary-General believes that the most appropriate period for convening the Advisory Committee would be in August 1980 and August 1981. Conference servicing costs for the convening of these two sessions of the Advisory Committee are estimated at \$116,920 for 1980 and \$123,930 for 1981 based on the following assumptions:

(a) That the Committee would meet in Vienna for a period of 10 days;

(b) That interpretation would be provided in English, French, Russian and Spanish

(c) That pre-session and in-session documentation would be in English, French, Russian and Spanish, and post-session documentation would be in all six working languages of the General Assembly;

(d) That the cost of travel and attendance of members of the Advisory Committee would be borne by their respective Governments.

5. These conference requirements were calculated on a full cost basis which assumes no capacity for absorption on the part of the Department of Conference Services. These requirements will be reviewed in the context of a consolidated statement on total conference servicing requirements to be submitted to the General Assembly toward the end of the thirty-fourth session.

6. Provision would also need to be made to enable the attendance at the Advisory Committee of (a) one staff member of the Office of Secretariat Services for Economic and Social Matters who would serve as secretary of the Advisory Committee, (b) one representative of the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, and (c) one representative each from ECA, ECLA, ECWA and ESCAP. The estimated cost would be \$1,800 in 1980 and \$1,930 in 1981 for OSSECS, \$1,800 in 1980 and \$1,930 in 1981 for DIESA, and \$9,060 in 1980 and \$10,475 in 1981 for the regional commissions.

7. With regard to the draft programme for the preparation and observance of the International Youth Year, the Secretary-General believes that, in view of the consultations required for the elaboration and bearing in mind that the Advisory Committee would have to meet prior to the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly so that its report would be made available to that session of the General Assembly, he would be in a position to submit only a preliminary draft programme to the first session of the Advisory Committee. In the light of the observations of the Advisory Committee at its first session and of the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, he would then proceed to elaborate a comprehensive draft programme which would be submitted to the Advisory Committee at its second session in 1981.

8. The preparation of the draft programme called for in paragraph 4 of the draft resolution is not included in the 1980-1981 programme budget proposals of the Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs Programme of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. The Secretary-General, nevertheless, does not intend to request additional resources for its preparation. The absorptions in the work programme of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs may, however, require certain programme adjustments which would be reflected in the programme performance report on the biennium 1980-1981.

9. In paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would also be requested to continue to take concrete measures through all the communications

media at his disposal to give widespread publicity to the activities of the United Nations system in the field of youth and to increase the dissemination of information on youth. Pending the completion by the Advisory Committee of a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the International Youth Year, this request will be taken into account in the activities to be undertaken by the Department of Public Information in 1980. When the Advisory Committee has made its recommendations on the size and scope of the information programme for the Year, then the Secretary-General would be in a position to indicate any additional requirements to the General Assembly at the same time that the Advisory Committee's proposed programme is submitted. With regard to press coverage of the meetings of the Advisory Committee, on the assumption that those meetings would not overlap with meetings of other United Nations bodies, no additional resources would be required. However, if that assumption is not realized, the additional requirements for temporary assistance at the rate of \$1,035 per week of meetings would be taken into account in the performance report on the programme budget.

10. The administrative and financial requirements in respect of further meetings of the Advisory Committee in 1982-1983 would be presented in the context of the Programme budget proposals for the biennium 1982-1983 as non-recurrent items of expenditure.

11. The adoption by the General Assembly of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.3/34/L.39 would give rise to additional expenditures in 1980-1981 estimated at \$26,995, exclusive of conference servicing costs estimated at \$240,850 and which, as indicated in paragraph 5 above, will be reviewed within the context of the consolidated statement on total conference servicing requirements to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session.
