

980 (X). Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1956

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the financial year 1956:

1. The Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, is authorized to enter into commitments to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(a) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of \$US2 million, if the Secretary-General certifies that they relate to the maintenance of peace and security or to urgent economic rehabilitation;

(b) Such commitments, duly certified by the President of the International Court of Justice, relating to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of *ad hoc* judges (Statute, Article 31), not exceeding a total of \$24,000;

(ii) The appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), or the calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50), not exceeding a total of \$25,000;

(iii) The holding of sessions of the Court away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of \$75,000;

(c) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of \$12,000, as may be required in the event of the coming into force during 1956 of the Protocol²² for Limiting and Regulating the Cultivation of the Poppy Plant, the Production of, International and Wholesale Trade in, and Use of Opium;

(d) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of \$90,000, as may be required in connexion with the travel of representatives to the General Assembly in the event of the admission of new Members;

2. The Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to the General Assembly, at its eleventh session, all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the General Assembly in respect of such commitments.

*559th plenary meeting,
16 December 1955.*

981 (X). Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1956

The General Assembly

Resolves:

1. That the Working Capital Fund shall be established for the year ended 31 December 1956 at an amount of \$US 20 million to be derived from cash advances by Members in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of the present resolution;

2. That Members shall make cash advances to the Working Capital Fund as required under paragraph 1 above in accordance with the scale adopted²³ by the General Assembly for contributions of Members to the eleventh annual budget;

²² United Nations publication, Sales No.: 1953.XI.6.

3. That there shall be set off against this new allocation of advances the amounts paid by Members to the Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1955, under General Assembly resolution 892 (IX) of 17 December 1954, provided that, should such advance paid by any Member to the Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1955 exceed the amount of that Member's advance under the provision of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by that Member in respect of the eleventh annual budget, or any previous budget;

4. That the Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(a) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose;

(b) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments which may be duly authorized under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 980 (X) relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(c) Such sums as, together with net sums outstanding for the same purposes, do not exceed \$125,000, to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities. Advances in excess of the total of \$125,000 may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The Secretary-General shall submit, with the annual accounts, an explanation of the outstanding balance of the revolving fund at the end of each year;

(d) Loans to specialized agencies and preparatory commissions of agencies to be established by inter-governmental agreement under the auspices of the United Nations to finance their work, pending receipt by the agencies concerned of sufficient contributions under their own budgets. In making such loans, which shall normally be repayable within two years, the Secretary-General shall have regard to the proposed financial resources of the agency concerned, and shall obtain the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for any cash issues which would increase the aggregate balance outstanding (including amounts previously advanced and outstanding) at any one time to an amount in excess of \$1,500,000 and for any issue which would increase the balance outstanding (including amounts previously advanced and outstanding) in respect of any one agency to an amount in excess of \$500,000;

(e) Such sums not exceeding \$35,000 as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the financial year in which payment is made. This amount may be increased with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each year, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each such year;

(f) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending accumulation of credits. Such advances shall

²³ See resolution 970 (X).

be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund.

*559th plenary meeting,
16 December 1955.*

982 (X). Permanent headquarters of the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling the conclusion reached at its ninth session³⁴ concerning proposals made, subject to certain conditions, to the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization for the construction at United Nations cost of permanent headquarters for these two agencies on United Nations grounds at Geneva,

Having considered the reports³⁵ of the Secretary-General and the report³⁶ of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

Having noted the offer made by the Republic and Canton of Geneva to the two aforementioned agencies concerning the construction of permanent headquarters buildings outside United Nations grounds in Geneva,

Having noted the statement made by the Acting Observer of Switzerland at the 510th meeting of the Fifth Committee³⁷ to the effect that the Government of Switzerland is ready to consider the question of financial participation in the extension of the Palais des Nations if a proposal from the United Nations is submitted to it,

Recalling its steadfast policy in favour of the promotion of common services between the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and considering that such services can most effectively be organized by housing the participating organizations in one and the same building,

1. *Decides* that the Secretary-General be authorized to inform the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization that the United Nations is prepared to construct a new wing to the Palais des Nations in Geneva to provide permanent headquarters for these agencies, subject to the following conditions:

(a) That the Secretary-General is able to find ways and means of financing the construction costs in such a manner that any charge falling on the United Nations budget in the years 1957-1961 does not exceed \$200,000

³⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Ninth Session, Fifth Committee, 482nd meeting.*

³⁵ *Ibid., Tenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 38, documents A/C.5/627/Rev.1 and A/C.5/L.353.*

³⁶ *Ibid., document A/3025.*

³⁷ *Ibid., Tenth Session, Fifth Committee, 510th meeting, para. 37.*

per annum, no charge to be made thereafter;

(b) That the agencies shall repay, without interest, over a period not exceeding fifty years, the costs to be borne by the United Nations in connexion with the construction of the building, the title to the building remaining vested in the United Nations;

(c) That the cost of alterations to an existing conference room for the exclusive use of the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization shall be borne by those organizations, the title to the premises remaining vested in the United Nations;

(d) That the United Nations shall be solely responsible for the management and maintenance of the building together with its annexes and grounds; repairs to the building to be executed by the United Nations; the cost of minor repairs necessary to ensure normal use shall be borne by the two agencies; the cost of major repairs shall be borne by the United Nations in accordance with local custom;

(e) That the building shall be leased for an indefinite period to the two organizations at a rental of one dollar per annum;

(f) That the rates of reimbursement in respect of any services provided by the United Nations to the two organizations should be negotiated in accordance with the principles agreed by the Fifth Committee at its 510th meeting;³⁸

2. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into negotiations with the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization for the construction of a suitable extension of the Palais des Nations;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into negotiations with the Government of Switzerland in consultation with the Secretaries-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization, with a view to ascertaining the possibilities of Swiss financial assistance towards the extension of the Palais des Nations;

4. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, in the event that he should make an offer under the authority granted to him by paragraph 1 above and that this offer should be accepted, to incur the necessary commitments and to advance from the Working Capital Fund, in 1956, a sum not exceeding \$100,000 to finance preliminary work in connexion with the construction;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on these negotiations and their outcome to the General Assembly at its eleventh session.

*559th plenary meeting,
16 December 1955.*

³⁸ *Ibid., para. 20.*