

787 (VIII). Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the financial year 1954

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the financial year 1954,

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 \$US 2 million if the Secretary-General certifies that they relate to the maintenance of peace and security or to urgent economic rehabilitation;

(b) Such commitments not exceeding a total of \$50,000 as are required for the United Nations Good Offices Commission on the treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa;

(c) Such commitments not exceeding a total of \$50,000 as may be required for the United Nations Commission on the Racial Situation in the Union of South Africa;

(d) Such additional commitments as are required for the *Ad Hoc* Commission on Prisoners of War;

(e) Such commitments not exceeding a total of \$184,000 as are required for the purchase of Korean service medals and ribbons;

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

(i) By the designation of *ad hoc* judges (Statute, Article 31),

(ii) By the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), or by the calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50),

(iii) By the holding of sessions of the Court away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22),

and not exceeding \$24,000, \$25,000 and \$75,000 respectively, under each of the above three headings;

The Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly at its next regular 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.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

788 (VIII). Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1954

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be maintained to 31 December 1954 at the amount of \$US 21,500,000, to be derived:

(a) As to \$20,000,000 from cash advances by Members in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of the present resolution;

(b) As to \$1,500,000 by previous transfer from surplus account as follows:

(i) \$1,239,203 being the balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1950 not already applied against Members' assessments for 1951, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 585 A (VI) of 21 December 1951;

(ii) \$260,797 as part of the balance of surplus account as at 31 December 1951 not already applied against Members' assessments for 1952, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 676 (VII) of 21 December 1952;

2. Members shall make cash advances to the Working Capital Fund as required under paragraph 1 (a) above in accordance with the scale adopted³² by the General Assembly for contributions of Members to the ninth annual budget;

3. 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 1953 under paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 674 (VII) of 21 December 1952, provided that, should the advance paid by any Member to the Working Capital Fund for the financial year 1953 exceed the amount of that Member's advance under the provision of paragraph 2 hereof, the excess shall be set off against the amount of contributions payable by that Member in respect of the ninth annual budget, or any previous budget;

4. 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 the resolution³³ 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 \$3,000,000 and for any issue which would

³² See resolution 765 (VIII), page 35.

³³ See resolution 787 (VIII), above.

increase the balance outstanding (including amounts previously advanced and outstanding) in respect of any one agency to an amount in excess of \$1,000,000, provided that, notwithstanding the above provisions, the Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization shall be authorized to postpone until 31 December 1954 repayment of the outstanding balance of the loans made to the Interim Commission;

(e) Such sums not exceeding \$45,000 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.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

789 (VIII). Control and limitation of documentation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 593 (VI) of 4 February 1952 on the control and limitation of documentation,

Noting the observations and suggestions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its first report³⁴ to the eighth session of the General Assembly, and the action taken by the Secretary-General, *inter alia*, by his instruction³⁵ of 20 August 1953, to ensure a more effective control of documentation,

Noting further the steps initiated by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 497 D (XVI) of 29 July 1953, to reduce the number and volume of certain categories of documents required by it,

Considering that this reduction can be carried out in full only with the co-operation of Member States,

Expressing the wish that Member States should co-operate in giving effect to the present resolution,

³⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 7.*

³⁵ See document ST/AFS/AI/99.

1. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to pursue and intensify its efforts to reduce further the documentation required by it, and also by its functional and regional commissions;

2. *Invites* all organs of the United Nations likewise to scrutinize their existing documentation and effect such reduction therein as may be feasible, and to co-operate with the Secretary-General in his efforts to reduce the volume and at the same time to improve the quality of the documentation of the United Nations.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

790 (VIII). Programme of conferences at Headquarters and Geneva

The General Assembly,

Having noted the recommendations³⁶ of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in its thirteenth report to the Economic and Social Council to the effect that the regular four-year pattern of conferences approved³⁷ by the General Assembly at its seventh session can only fulfil its purpose if it is strictly adhered to by all the organs concerned,

Noting also the opinion³⁸ of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its fifth report to the eighth session of the General Assembly to the effect that the Advisory Committee regards the programme as firmly fixed for the period 1954 to 1957 and that any variations will presumably be authorized only by a special decision of the General Assembly,

1. *Endorses* the opinion of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

2. *Reaffirms* its recommendation that all organs of the United Nations arrange their meetings in accordance with the dates and places set forth in the pattern presented by the Secretary-General and that the specialized agencies concerned be invited to give due consideration to this pattern in drawing up their own programmes of meetings.

*471st plenary meeting,
9 December 1953.*

³⁶ See document E/2446, para. 88.

³⁷ See resolution 694 (VII).

³⁸ See document A/2501, para. 37.