

especially the method to be followed in determining the amount corresponding to "maintenance of programmes" and the composition of that amount;

(c) The best way of dealing with inflationary trends and currency instability in a biennial programme budget;

(d) Refinement of the methods of calculating absolute and real growth of the budget;

(e) The need for a study in depth of problems relating to the implementation of the budget;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make a study of the aforementioned matters and to submit to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, a report which shall contain proposals relating to:

(a) The aforementioned provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3534 (XXX) and 31/93;

(b) The method to be followed in making a satisfactory determination of the amount corresponding to "maintenance of programmes" and the composition of that amount, for example by proposing the adoption of a zero base for the calculation of some elements thereof, and in making a more accurate assessment of staff costs;

(c) A study of the advantages and disadvantages of "semi-full budgeting" and the methods used or proposed to apply this system;

and requests the Advisory Committee to submit its observations and recommendations on the Secretary-General's conclusions to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

3. *Decides* to consider at its thirty-third session the reports of the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as a preliminary to the preparation of the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/212. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979

The General Assembly

I

EXPANSION OF MEETING ROOMS AND IMPROVEMENT OF CONFERENCE SERVICING AND DELEGATE FACILITIES AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the expansion of meeting rooms and improvement of conference servicing and delegate facilities at United Nations Headquarters⁸⁰ and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁸¹

2. *Concurs* with the observations and recommendations made by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report;⁸¹

⁸⁰ A/C.5/32/4 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

⁸¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8A (A/32/8/Add.1-30)*, document A/32/8/Add.1.

II

IMPACT OF INFLATION ON THE BUDGETS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system;⁸²

2. *Considers* the report of the Secretary-General to be an interim report;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the progress achieved with respect to the question of the impact of inflation on the budgets of the organizations of the United Nations system, taking into account the views expressed in the Fifth Committee during its consideration of this question at the thirty-second session;

III

IMPLICATIONS OF EXTENDING TO CERTAIN FORMER STAFF MEMBERS COVERAGE BY THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND FOR SERVICE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND WORKS AGENCY FOR PALESTINE REFUGEES IN THE NEAR EAST

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implications of extending to certain former staff members coverage by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for service with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East during the period 1950 to 1960 inclusive;⁸³

2. *Takes note also* of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁸⁴

IV

HONORARIA OF MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

1. *Decides* that the lump-sum payment per annum of honoraria for members of the Human Rights Committee shall be in the amount of \$2,500 for the Chairman and \$1,000 for the other members;

2. *Authorizes* that expenditures for these honoraria be made beginning on 1 January 1977;

3. *Notes* that additional expenditures in the amount of \$19,500 under section 18 of the programme budget for the biennium 1976-1977 will be absorbed within available appropriations for that biennium;

4. *Authorizes* an additional appropriation under section 18 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979 in the amount of \$39,000;

V

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INFORMATION SERVICES UNIT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the question of the establishment of an information services unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;⁸⁵

⁸² A/C.5/32/5.

⁸³ A/C.5/31/71 and A/C.5/32/14.

⁸⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8A (A/32/8/Add.1-30)*, document A/32/8/Add.2.

⁸⁵ A/32/256 and Add.1.

2. *Decides* that the acceptance by the Secretary-General of the offer of voluntary funds in 1978-1979 would not imply any commitment on the part of the Organization subsequently to transfer the costs of the operation to the regular budget;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to proceed in accordance with the proposal contained in paragraph 5 of his report;⁸⁶

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the progress achieved with respect to the work carried out in 1978 so that the Assembly can pronounce itself on whether computerization should be undertaken;

VI

HONORARIUM OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the honorarium of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁸⁷

2. *Decides* to establish the honorarium of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee at the level of \$50,000 annually, effective 1 January 1978;

VII

STATUS OF CLASSIFICATION PROJECTS

Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the status of classification projects;⁸⁸

VIII

INCLUSION OF ARABIC AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION⁸⁹

Approves the inclusion of Arabic as an official language of the Third General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

IX

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS RESULTING FROM DECISIONS OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General⁹⁰ on the financial implications resulting from the decisions taken by the Trade and Development Board at its ninth special session and at the first part of its seventeenth session;

⁸⁶ A/C.5/32/47.

⁸⁷ A/C.5/32/92.

⁸⁸ A/C.5/32/57.

⁸⁹ See also sect. V, resolution 32/164.

⁹⁰ A/C.5/32/105.

X

PROPOSED ARRANGEMENT FOR A COMBINED INTERNAL AUDIT AND MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT SERVICE

1. *Takes note* of the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 22.55 of its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979,⁹¹ as well as the views expressed in the Fifth Committee on the question of the proposed arrangements for a combined Internal Audit and Management Improvement Service in the Secretariat, which the Secretary-General is invited to take into account, and decides, in the meantime, to maintain the present organizational arrangements;

2. *Decides* to return to and consider the questions raised by the Advisory Committee and by delegations at its thirty-third session in the context of the review of the question of administrative and management control of the United Nations, provided for under General Assembly resolution 31/94 C of 14 December 1976, it being understood that all options will be open to the Assembly when it considers the matter at that time;

XI

CONDITIONS OF SERVICE AND COMPENSATION FOR OFFICERS OTHER THAN SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS SERVING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. *Decides* to consider on a priority basis at its thirty-third session the proposals of the Secretary-General with regard to compensation for the two full-time Commissioners of the International Civil Service Commission⁹² and the relevant comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions⁹³ without prejudice to the possibility of retroactive action on these proposals;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with such advice as he deems desirable, to prepare, in the context of the comprehensive study of the question of honoraria, a study of the conditions of service and compensation appropriate for those officers other than Secretariat officials serving the General Assembly whose terms and conditions of selection, duties and responsibilities preclude active engagement by governmental, intergovernmental or other specified entities.

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⁹¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/32/8 and Corr.1), chap. II.*

⁹² A/C.5/32/28.

⁹³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8A (A/32/8/Add.1-30), document A/32/8/Add.11.*