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REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Carl C. Pedersen (Canada)

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 1980, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the item entitled "Report of the International Civil Service Commission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.
- 2. The Committee had before it the sixth annual report of the International Civil Service Commission. 1/ Chapter III of the Commission's report, dealing with pensionable remuneration and pension entitlements as elements of total remuneration, was considered in conjunction with the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board under agenda item 100, entitled "United Nations pension system".
- 3. The Commission's report was considered by the Fifth Committee at its 32nd, 33rd, 35th, 37th to 40th, 42nd, 48th to 50th, 53rd, 54th and 56th to 58th meetings, on 19, 21, 25, 26 and 28 November and 1, 2, 6 and 8 to 13 December. Comments made in the course of the discussion of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/35/SR.32, 33, 35, 37-40, 42, 48-50, 53, 54 and 56-58).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

4. At the 48th meeting, on 6 December, the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany introduced a draft resolution (A/C.5/35/L.31) sponsored by Argentina, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Japan, Pakistan, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, subsequently joined by

 $[\]frac{1}{100}$ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/35/30 and Corr.1 and 2).

Italy and the Philippines. The draft resolution read as follows (for the annex, see para. 11, draft resolution A, annex I):

"The General Assembly,

"Taking note with appreciation of the Sixth Annual Report of the International Civil Service Commission,

"Reaffirming the central role of the Commission in the development of a single unified international civil service through the application of common personnel policies and standards, methods and arrangements,

"Endorsing the systematic and integrated approach which the Commission is pursuing in its work,

Ι

- "1. Notes with appreciation the continuing efforts of the Commission to review the application of the Noblemaire principle, especially with a view to achieving comparability of total compensation of the United Nations remuneration of the Professional and higher categories with that of the selected comparator national civil service, and to ascertaining whether the present comparator is still the highest paid civil service;
- "2. Requests the Commission to intensify its fundamental and comprehensive review of the purposes and operations of the post adjustment system as requested in resolution 34/165 by fully taking into account the causes of present anomalies and to submit the results of the review to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;
- "3. Welcomes the Commission's willingness to advise Member States upon request in developing their own system for adjusting the salaries of their overseas staff, provided that this assistance does not impinge upon the exercise of the Commission's functions under its Statute and that no additional resources will be required for this assistance;

II

- "4. <u>Notes</u> the progress made by the Commission under the authority given to it under articles 13 and 14 of its Statute;
- "5. Notes the decision of the Secretary-General to implement the Master Standard of post classification beginning 1 January 1981;
- "6. <u>Invites</u> the Commission, the Secretary-General and the Heads of the organizations which have accepted the Commission's Statute to co-operate fully in the implementation of common standards of post classification, ensuring appropriate consideration of the individual situation and requirements of each organization and the most economical use of resources;

III

- "7. Notes the surveys of best prevailing conditions for the General Service and related categories carried out by the Commission under article 12 of its Statute, including the second such survey in Geneva;
- "8. Requests the Commission to continue to study the general principles and methodology for surveys to determine the conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories including the determination of gross salaries, taking into account the views expressed in the Fifth Committee at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly;
- "9. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly of the actions taken with regard to the implementation of the Commission's recommendations on the salaries of the staff in the General Service category at Geneva and New York;

IV

- "10. Decides for staff in the Professional and higher categories to consolidate 30 points of post adjustment effective 1 January 1981 in conformity with the recommendation by the Commission in paragraph 101 of its report, resulting in salary scales (gross and net), post adjustment schedules and scales of staff assessment and pensionable remuneration as set forth in the annexes II, III, IV and in the corrigendum to annex V to the Commission's report, and that the base of the post adjustment system shall be changed from New York at 100 as at November 1973 to New York as at October 1977;
- "11. Decides to revise the schedule of costs reimbursable under the provisions of the education grant as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 156 of its report;
- "12. Approves the classification by the Commission of duty stations according to conditions of life and work and the increase in the periodicity of home leave and of travel entitlements under the education grant as recommended by the Commission in paragraphs 224 and 226 of its report, pending the determination of eligible duty stations;
- "13. Notes the Commission's intention to study further financial incentives for staff members serving in the most difficult duty stations;
- "14. Approves the amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations with effect from 1 January 1981 as annexed to this resolution, to replace the present schedules of net and gross salaries, post adjustment amounts, the scales of staff assessment and of pensionable remuneration, as well as to give effect to the revision of the education grant and of home leave and education grant travel entitlements;

V

- "15. Requests the Commission to begin as soon as possible the review of the language incentive scheme of the United Nations which is already on its programme of work;
- "16. Welcomes the examination of the staff assessment system and the Tax Equalization Fund as proposed by the Commission in paragraph 104 of its report;
- "17. Requests the Commission to keep under review the possibility of establishing a cost-effective contributory system of death grant benefits and submit the results of the review to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

VI

- "18. Decides to establish effective 1 January 1981 three temporary posts (one P-3, one G-4) in the Cost-of-Living Section of the Commission's secretariat as requested by the Commission pending the study of the long-term needs of its secretariat to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;
- "19. Requests the Commission in future to provide the total of financial implications of all recommendations of the Commission covered by its annual report."
- 5. At the 50th meeting, on 9 December, the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, on behalf of the sponsors, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.5/35/L.31/Rev.1).
- 6. The Committee voted as follows on the revised draft resolution:
- (a) Section IV was adopted by a recorded vote of 70 to 11, with 8 abstentions. The voting was as follows:
 - In favour: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against:

Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Central African Republic, Congo, Ivory Coast, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, United Republic of Tanzania.

(b) The revised draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a recorded vote of 84 to none, with 14 abstentions 2/ (see para. 12, draft resolution A). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Hungary, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Somalia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America.

7. At its 55th meeting, on 11 December, the Committee, in compliance with the provisions of rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution. The report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman.

^{2/} The representative of Sierra Leone indicated that, had he been present during the voting, he would have voted in favour of the revised draft resolution.

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

- 8. The Committee decided, without objection, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A, an additional appropriation of \$67,800 would be required under section 28L of the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981. An additional appropriation of \$15,000 would also be required under section 31 (staff assessment), to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1 (income from staff assessment). Furthermore, an increase of \$42,700 would be required under income section 2 (general income).
- 9. At the 57th meeting, on 12 December, the representative of the <u>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland</u> introduced a draft decision (A/C.5/35/L.42), which was subsequently sponsored also by the <u>United States of America</u>.
- 10. At its 58th meeting, on 13 December, the Committee decided, without objection, to adopt the draft decision (see para. 12, draft resolution B).
- 11. At the same meeting, the representative of <u>Barbados</u> introduced a draft resolution (A/C.5/35/L.40) which the Committee, at the same meeting, adopted without objection (see para. 12, draft resolution C).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

12. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Report of the International Civil Service Commission

Α

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the sixth annual report of the International Civil Service Commission, 3/

Reaffirming the central role of the Commission in the development of a single unified international civil service through the application of common personnel policies and standards, methods and arrangements,

Endorsing the systematic and integrated approach which the Commission is pursuing in its work,

^{3/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/35/30 and Corr.1 and 2).

Ι

- 1. <u>Notes with appreciation</u> the continuing efforts of the International Civil Service Commission to review the application of the Noblemaire principle, and invites the Commission to complete its examination as soon as possible, especially with a view to achieving comparability of total compensation of the United Nations remuneration of the Professional and higher categories with that of the selected comparator national civil service and to ascertaining whether the present comparator is still the highest paid civil service;
- 2. Requests the Commission to intensify and speedily to conclude its fundamental and comprehensive review of the purposes and operations of the post adjustment system as requested in General Assembly resolution 34/165 of 17 December 1979 by fully taking into account the causes of possible anomalies, and to submit the results of the review to the Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;
- 3. <u>Welcomes</u> the Commission's willingness to advise Member States, upon request, in developing a system for adjusting the salaries of their expatriate staff, provided that this assistance does not impinge upon the exercise of the Commission's functions under its statute and that no additional resources will be required for this assistance;

II

- 1. <u>Notes</u> the progress made by the International Civil Service Commission under the authority given to it under articles 13 and 14 of its statute;
- 2. <u>Notes</u> the decision of the Secretary-General to implement the Master Standard of job classification, beginning on 1 January 1981;
- 3. <u>Invites</u> the Commission, the Secretary-General and the heads of the organizations which have accepted the Commission's statute to co-operate fully in the implementation of the common standards of job classification established by the Commission, ensuring appropriate considerations of the individual situation and requirements of each organization and the most economical use of resources:

III

- 1. <u>Notes</u> the surveys of best prevailing conditions for the General Service and related categories carried out by the International Civil Service Commission under article 12 of its statute, including the second such survey at Geneva;
- 2. Requests the Commission to continue to study the general principles and methodology for surveys to determine the conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories, including the determination of gross salaries, taking into account the views expressed in the Fifth Committee at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

IV

- l. Decides that, for staff in the Professional and higher categories, thirty points of post adjustment shall be consolidated into base pay, effective 1 January 1981, in conformity with the recommendation by the International Civil Service Commission in paragraph 101 of its report, resulting in salary scales (gross and net), post adjustment schedules and scales of staff assessment and pensionable remuneration as set forth in annexes II, III, IV and the corrigendum to annex V to the Commission's report, and that the base of the post adjustment system shall be changed from New York at 100 as at November 1973 to New York as at October 1977;
- 2. <u>Decides</u> to revise the schedule of costs reimbursable under the provisions of the education grant, as recommended by the Commission in paragraph 156 of its report;
- 3. Requests the Commission to review the possibility of extending the education grant to all internationally recruited staff, wherever they may serve;
- 4. Approves the classification by the Commission of duty stations according to conditions of life and work and the increase in the periodicity of home leave and of travel entitlements under the education grant, as recommended by the Commission in paragraphs 224 and 226 of its report, pending the determination of eligible duty stations;
- 5. <u>Notes</u> the Commission's intention to study further financial incentives for staff members serving in the most difficult duty stations;
- 6. Approves the amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, with effect from 1 January 1981, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution, to replace the present schedules of net and gross salaries, post adjustment amounts, the scales of staff assessment and of pensionable remuneration, as well as to give effect to the revision of the education grant and of home leave and education grant travel entitlements;

V

- 1. Requests the International Civil Service Commission to begin as soon as possible the review of the language incentive scheme of the United Nations which is already on its programme of work;
- 2. <u>Welcomes</u> the examination of the relationship between the staff assessment system and the Tax Equalization Fund, as proposed by the Commission in paragraph 104 of its report;
- 3. Requests the Commission to keep under review the possibility of establishing a cost-effective contributory system of death grant benefits and to submit the results of the review to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

VI

- 1. Decides to establish, effective 1 January 1981, three temporary posts one P-3, one G-5 and one G-4 in the Cost-of-Living Section of the secretariat of the International Civil Service Commission, pending the study of the long-term needs of that secretariat to be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session;
- 2. Requests the Commission to continue to provide to the General Assembly the total financial implications of all recommendations of the Commission covered by its annual report.

ANNEX

Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

REGULATION 3.2

In the first paragraph, replace the third sentence in the present text of the regulation by the following:

"The amount of the grant per scholastic year for each child shall be the sum of 75 per cent of the first \$3,000 of admissible educational expenses, 50 per cent of the next \$1,000 of such expenses and 25 per cent of the next \$1,000, up to a maximum grant of \$3,000."

In the same paragraph replace the fourth sentence in the present text and add a fifth sentence at the end as follows:

"Travel costs of the child may also be paid for an outward and return journey once in each scholastic year between the educational institution and the duty station, except that in the case of staff members serving at designated duty stations where schools do not exist which provide schooling in the language or in the cultural tradition desired by staff members for their children, such travel costs may be paid twice in the year in which the staff member is not entitled to home leave. Such travel shall be by a route approved by the Secretary-General, but not in an amount exceeding the cost of such a journey between the home country and the duty station."

In the third paragraph, replace the second sentence in the present text by the following:

"The amount of this grant per year for each disabled child shall be equal to 75 per cent of the educational expenses actually incurred up to \$5,000, subject to a maximum grant of \$3,750."

REGULATION 3.3

Replace paragraph (b) (i) by the following:

"(b) (i) The assessment shall be calculated at the following rates for staff whose salary rates are set forth in paragraphs 1 and 3 of annex I to the present Regulations:

Total assessable payments (US dollars)	Assessment (per cent)
(do dollars)	Staff member with a Staff member with dependent spouse or neither a dependent a dependent child spouse nor a dependent child
First \$16,000 per year	14.7
Next \$4,000 per year	31 36
Next \$4,000 per year	34 39.1
Next 54,000 per year	37 42.1
Next \$5,000 per year	39 44.7
Next \$5,000 per year	42 47.7
Next \$5,000 per year	44 49.9
Next \$6,000 per year	47 52.6
Next \$6,000 per year	50 55.5
Next \$6,000 per year	57.5
Next \$7,000 per year	53.5
Next \$7,000 per year	55 59.9
Next \$7,000 per year	56 60.9
Next \$8,000 per year	57 62.1
Remaining assessable payments	59 64.5

REGULATION 5.3

Insert the following text as the second sentence:

"However, in the case of service at designated duty stations having very difficult or difficult conditions of life and work, eligible staff members shall be granted, respectively, home leave once in every 12 months and once in every 18 months."

Annex I to the Staff Regulations

SALARY SCALES AND RELATED PROVISIONS

Replace the present text of paragraph 1 by the following:

"1. The Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, having the status equivalent to that of the executive head of a major specialized agency, shall receive a salary of \$US 125,400 per year; the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation shall receive a salary of \$US 125,400 per year; and an Under-Secretary-General shall receive a salary of \$US 96,765 per year and an Assistant Secretary-General shall receive a salary of \$US 85,864 per year, subject to the staff assessment plan provided in staff regulation 3.3 and to post adjustments wherever applied. If otherwise eligible, they shall receive the allowances which are available to staff members generally."

Replace the tables at the end of annex I to the Staff Regulations by the following tables:

Salary scales for Professional and higher categories showing annual gross and the net equivalent after application of staff assessment

(In US dollars)

(Effective 1 January 1981)

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D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child. S = Rate applicable to staff members without a dependent spouse or child.

Schedules of post adjustments (amount per index point in US dollars)

(Effective 1 January 1981)

(i) Additions (where cost of living is higher than at the base)

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D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child. S = Rate applicable to staff members without a dependent spouse or child.

Schedules of post adjustments (amount per index point in US dollars) (continued) (ii) Deductions (where cost of living is lower than at the base)

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D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child. S = Rate applicable to staff members without a dependent spouse or child.

Pensionable remuneration for Professional and higher categories and, for purposes of separation payments, net equivalent after application of staff assessment (Suggested salary scales after consolidation of 30 points)

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D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child. S = Rate applicable to staff members without a dependent spouse or child.

The General Assembly

- 1. Approves the revised scale of staff assessment for staff in the General Services and other locally recruited categories as well as the manner of application, including the transitional arrangements, as recommended by the International Civil Service Commission in paragraphs 84 and 85 of its sixth annual report; 4/
- 2. <u>Invites</u> the International Civil Service Commission to keep under review the matter of staff assessment for all categories of staff and to report to the General Assembly as appropriate;
- 3. Approves the amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations with effect from 1 January 1981, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

ANNEX

Amendments to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

REGULATION 3.3

Replace paragraph (b) (ii) by the following:

(b) (ii) The assessment shall be calculated at the following rates for staff whose salary rates are established under paragraph 7 of annex I to the present Regulations:

<u> </u>	ssment cent)
First \$2,000 per year	7
Next \$2,000 per year	11
Next \$2,000 per year	15
Next \$2,000 per year	19
Next \$4,000 per year	22
Next \$4,000 per year	25
Next \$4,000 per year	28
Next \$6,000 per year	32
Next \$6,000 per year	35
Next \$6,000 per year	38
Next \$8,000 per year	41
Remaining assessable payments	43

^{4/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/35/30 and Corr.1 and 2).

C

The General Assembly,

Taking note of paragraphs 115-123 of the report of the International Civil Service Commission concerning supplementary payments made to international civil servants by Governments, 5/

Requests the International Civil Service Commission to keep the matter under review and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, taking fully into account the views expressed by the delegations during discussion of this item at the thirty-fifth session.

^{5/} Ibid.