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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1978-1979

Administrative and financial implications of draft resolution J
recommended by the First Committee (A/33/461, para. 33)

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Hamzah Mohammed HAMZAH (Syrian Arab Republic)

1. At its 59th meeting, on 13 December 1978, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/33/78) on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution J recommended by the First Committee (A/33/461, para. 33). In his statement (A/C.5/33/78), the Secretary-General indicated that the financial implications of the draft resolution would amount to \$128,800, comprising \$60,100 for conference servicing and \$68,700 for consultant (\$14,700) and travel and subsistence of experts (\$51,000) and substantive staff (\$3,000). The statement further indicated that the amount of \$60,100 would be included in the consolidated statement of conference servicing costs to be submitted towards the end of the current session of the General Assembly, but that \$68,700 would be required under section 2 C of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979.

2. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions made an oral statement in which he informed the Fifth Committee that in the financial papers related to the work of the Third Committee, the Secretary-General, while indicating the costs of consultants' funds, was not requesting appropriations for them owing to the restraint called for by General Assembly resolution 32/209. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee, without prejudice to the importance of the study to be carried out, recommended that the \$14,700 requested for consultancy funds be absorbed within available appropriations. He further stated that the Secretary-General indicated that in 1978 only 90 per cent of

consultants' funds voted had been allotted and that a similar practice would be followed in 1979 with a view to minimizing over-expenditures in this area. Accordingly the Advisory Committee recommended that an amount of \$54,000 be approved under section 2 C of the programme budget for 1978-1979 for travel and subsistence of experts (\$51,000) and substantive staff (\$3,000) and that conference servicing costs not exceeding \$60,100 would be considered very shortly by the General Assembly.

3. Comments made by delegations in the course of the discussion of this item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.5/33/SR.59).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

4. The Fifth Committee decided, by 69 votes to 10, with 5 abstentions, to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution J recommended by the First Committee (A/33/461, para. 33), an additional appropriation of \$54,000 would be required under section 2 C of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979 and that conference servicing costs not exceeding \$60,100 would arise and would be considered in the context of the consolidated paper of conference servicing costs for 1979 at a later stage.
