

1555 (XV). Administrative budgets for 1961 of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative budgets for 1961 of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency;¹⁷

2. *Invites* the attention of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency to the comments and observations made in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to the views expressed in the Fifth Committee at the fifteenth session of the General Assembly.

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

1556 (XV). Report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds¹⁸ appointed at the fourteenth session of the General Assembly,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* of the work of the Committee;

2. *Decides* that:

(a) An *ad hoc* Committee of the whole Assembly, under the chairmanship of the President of the session, shall be convened as soon as practicable after the opening of the sixteenth session, where pledges of voluntary contributions for the refugee programmes for the following year would be announced;

(b) States not Members of the United Nations, but members of one or more of the specialized agencies, shall be invited to attend the meetings of the *ad hoc* Committee for the purpose of announcing their pledges to the refugee programmes;

(c) In order to ensure maximum attendance, as great advance publicity as possible shall be given to the meetings of the *ad hoc* Committee and they shall be so scheduled that no other meetings are held at the same time.

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

B

The General Assembly

1. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly to appoint a Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds consisting of not more than fourteen members, with the same terms of reference as those laid down in Assembly resolution 693 (VII) of 25 October 1952, to serve from the close of the fifteenth session to the close of the sixteenth session of the Assembly;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixteenth session the item entitled "Report of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds".

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

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The members of the Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds will be appointed at the resumed fifteenth session.

1557 (XV). Organization and work of the Secretariat

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Committee of Experts on the Review of the Activities and Organization of the Secretariat¹⁹ and the related observations of the Secretary-General²⁰ and of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;²¹

2. *Confirms* the provisional decision of the Secretary-General that, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of the General Assembly resolution 1446 (XIV) of 5 December 1959, the composition of the Committee of Experts should be increased from six to eight members;

3. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee of Experts that, pending examination of its final report by the General Assembly, United Nations organs should not, save in cases of real urgency, propose the initiation of studies or other projects involving additions to the budget or to the permanent establishment of the Secretariat.

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

1558 (XV). Public information activities of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the Secretary-General's report of 25 August 1960 on public information activities of the United Nations,²²

Recalling its resolutions 1086 (XI) of 21 December 1956, 1335 (XIII) of 13 December 1958 and 1405 (XIV) of 1 December 1959 relating to the establishment of information centres and setting out the basic policy measures to be followed in the field of public information activities,

Noting further the progress achieved in the implementation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Having regard to the increased membership of the African States in the United Nations,

Welcoming the Secretary-General's announcement of the intention to open during 1961 eight new information centres: one in Latin America, one in eastern Europe, one in Asia and five in Africa,

Noting that for the years 1960 and 1961 the Secretary-General has planned the public information programmes at an expenditure level of about \$5 million net for each year,

Emphasizing the importance of the dissemination of information on the United Nations objectives and activities in those regions where mass information media are less developed, particularly in the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Consultative Panel on Public Information and the

¹⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 54, document A/4599.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, agenda item 55, document A/4623.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, agenda item 58, document A/4536, annex.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, document A/4536, paras. 1-7.

²¹ *Ibid.*, document A/4554.

²² *Ibid.*, agenda item 59, document A/4429.

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as appropriate:

(a) To give high priority to the opening of information centres or arranging for adequate information facilities in the less-developed areas, particularly in the newly independent countries and Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, by effecting economies in other directions;

(b) To intensify his efforts to achieve a more effective regional representation at the policy-making level of the Office of Public Information;

(c) To report to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session on the progress made in implementing the present resolution.

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

1559 (XV). Geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat,²³

Recalling Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the third paragraph of the preamble to General Assembly resolution 153 (II) of 15 November 1947, namely:

"Whereas, in view of its international character and in order to avoid undue predominance of national practices, the policies and administrative methods of the Secretariat should reflect, and profit to the highest degree from, assets of the various cultures and the technical competence of all Member nations",

Taking into account the various views expressed by delegations during the discussion of this question.

Recognizing that the present method of determining the desirable range of posts for each Member State on the basis of the scale of assessments to the United Nations budget needs review,

Noting the steady increase in the proportion of the fixed-term staff of the Secretariat,

1. *Requests* the Committee of Experts appointed by General Assembly resolution 1446 (XIV) of 5 December 1959 to study the categories of posts subject to geographical distribution and the criteria for determining the range of posts for each Member State with a view to securing a wide geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat, taking into account, *inter alia*, the relative importance of various posts, and to report to the Assembly at its sixteenth session;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to implement the General Assembly resolutions on the question of the geographical distribution of the staff of the Secretariat;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixteenth session on the implementation of the above-mentioned provisions.

*954 plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

²³ *Ibid.*, agenda item 60, documents A/C.5/833 and Add.1 and A/C.5/834.

1560 (XV). Annual report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the annual report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;²⁴

2. *Approves*, with effect from 1 May 1960, the draft agreement between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the transfer of pension rights of participants in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and of participants in the Staff Retirement Plan of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development;²⁵

3. *Approves*, with effect from 1 May 1960, the draft agreement between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund on the transfer of pension rights of participants in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and of participants in the Staff Retirement Plan of the International Monetary Fund.²⁶

*954th plenary meeting,
18 December 1960.*

1561 (XV). United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the expert group²⁷ appointed by the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive review of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1310 (XIII) of 10 December 1958, the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board²⁸ and the proposals made by the Secretary-General, as a result of those reports, in conjunction with the executive heads of the other member organizations and in co-operation with the Board,²⁹

Agrees that the expert group has accomplished a difficult task with skill and thoroughness, and places on record its warm appreciation of the services of the group;

I

PENSIONABLE REMUNERATION OF THE STAFF

1. *Decides* that, for the purposes of contributions payable to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the pensionable remuneration of the staff with effect from 1 April 1961 shall be established as follows:

(a) Base pensionable remuneration:

(i) For staff who are subject to the Staff Assessment Plan under staff regulation 3.3, the base pensionable remuneration shall be the annual rate of the United Nations gross salary, expressed in United States dollars or such other currency as may be agreed between the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and the organization, applicable to the grade and step (including any language allowance) of the official, less one half of the

²⁴ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/4469 and Corr.1).

²⁵ *Ibid.*, Fifteenth Session, Annexes, agenda item 62, document A/C.5/846, annex A.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, annex B.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, agenda item 63, document A/4427.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, document A/4467.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, document A/4468.