

34/233. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981

The General Assembly

I

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

Decides that, subject to the availability of additional voluntary funds, the pilot operation of the Development Information System of the Information Systems Unit shall be extended for a further year, that the use of the pilot system shall be carefully monitored by valid statistical methods and that the system shall be submitted to the Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems for review and comment and a report thereon circulated to delegations no later than 1 August 1980 so that the General Assembly may pronounce itself, at its thirty-fifth session, on the continuance, or otherwise, of the Information Systems Unit;

II

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMPUTING CENTRE FOR 1980

Approves the budget estimates for the International Computing Centre for the year 1980;⁷²

III

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Requests the Secretary-General, in implementing General Assembly resolution 33/10 of 3 November 1978, to give priority to the implementation of the recommendation of the Board of Auditors, as endorsed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷³ calling for improvements in the United Nations financial management systems and especially:

(a) To strengthen the role of the Controller so that he can provide functional leadership, guidance and central direction of all United Nations financial functions;

(b) To establish as soon as possible a systems group to deal exclusively with the over-all system of financial management and control;

(c) To produce the financial manual for which special funds have been provided;

IV

ALTERATION, IMPROVEMENT AND MAJOR MAINTENANCE OF PREMISES AT THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

1. *Decides* that the United Nations should retain the property "Les Feuillantines";

2. *Decides* that the villa should be utilized, if need be, as office space, on the understanding that only those alterations that are absolutely required are made;

3. *Decides* that the property should be maintained, meanwhile, in reasonable condition;

4. *Approves* the transfer to the city of Geneva of the United Nations property described in section B of the report of the Secretary-General⁷⁴ under the arrangements indicated in paragraph 18 of the report;

⁷² See A/C.5/34/19.

⁷³ See A/33/171.

⁷⁴ A/C.5/34/23.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983, on action he has taken to implement his proposals;

V

TRAINING COURSES FOR TRANSLATORS/PRÉCIS WRITERS AT THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Requests the Secretary-General to review the results of the 1979-1980 training course for translators/précis writers at the Economic Commission for Africa⁷⁵ and to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session so as to enable the Assembly to review the matter before funds are committed in full for the 1980-1981 course;

VI

COMPENSATION TO MEMBERS OF COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES OR SIMILAR BODIES IN THE EVENT OF DEATH, INJURY OR ILLNESS ATTRIBUTABLE TO SERVICE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to promulgate the proposed rules governing compensation to members of commissions, committees or similar bodies in the event of death, injury or illness attributable to service with the United Nations,⁷⁶ amended as indicated in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁷⁷

2. *Decides* that the rules shall apply to members of all commissions, committees and similar bodies in respect of which the United Nations pays daily subsistence allowance or annual remuneration⁷⁸ and any such bodies as may in future be certified by the Secretary-General as falling into such a category;

3. *Also decides* that the scale of compensation contained in the rules shall be reviewed by the Secretary-General at least once every four years, in the light of inflation and currency fluctuations since the previous review, and that he shall make appropriate recommendations in the context of the proposed programme budget for the appropriate biennium;

4. *Further decides* that the Secretary-General should examine the feasibility of providing insurance coverage for members of commissions, committees or similar bodies to meet the cost of medical or dental treatment of an emergency nature which becomes necessary during a period of service to the Organization but which would not be connected with a service-incurred injury (for which compensation would already be payable under the rules recommended above), on the understanding that coverage paid for by the United Nations would be provided only to the extent that the affected person is not otherwise covered by an insurance or compensation scheme;

VII

FIRST-CLASS TRAVEL IN THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on first-class travel in the United Nations organizations;⁷⁹

⁷⁵ See A/C.5/34/33.

⁷⁶ A/C.5/34/9, annex.

⁷⁷ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/34/7/Add.1-28), document A/34/7/Add.8, para. 4.

⁷⁸ See ST/SGB/107/Rev.4, annex A.

⁷⁹ A/C.5/34/39.

VIII

ORGANIZATIONAL NOMENCLATURE IN THE SECRETARIAT

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on organizational nomenclature in the Secretariat;⁸⁰

IX

UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Decides, simultaneously with granting the United Nations International School a subsidy of \$3,515,000, to request the Board of Auditors to examine the accounts of the School and to examine the accumulated deficit, bursary policies and building maintenance needs and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

X

PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING ESTIMATES AND SOLICITING BIDS ON UNITED NATIONS CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Requests the Joint Inspection Unit to conduct a full-scale study of procedures for obtaining estimates and soliciting bids on United Nations construction projects at Headquarters and in other United Nations offices with the assistance of outside expertise, as necessary, it being understood that, in addition to covering procedures for major construction at all United Nations offices, the study should include comparative information with respect to other organizations in the United Nations system, should contain comments on the adequacy of practices and procedures now in place and should suggest such specific revisions and improvements as may be necessary;

XI

UNITED NATIONS ACCOMMODATION AT NAIROBI

1. *Approves* the construction of 2,001 square metres of additional net usable space at an estimated cost of 33,828,000 Kenyan shillings to provide expanded conference and common services facilities;

2. *Approves* the construction of the three office buildings proposed by the Secretary-General;⁸¹

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report, including up-to-date cost estimates, to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session;

⁸⁰ A/C.5/34/32.

⁸¹ See A/C.5/34/43.

XII

COMMON SERVICES AT NAIROBI

Requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations agencies and programmes, including the World Bank institutions, represented at Nairobi, to prepare, for submission to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session, a report on the organization, financing and management of the common services which are to be established in the United Nations Centre at Nairobi in order to ensure that those services are shared to the maximum extent possible and that there is no duplication resulting in avoidable costs; in preparing the report, the Secretary-General should take into account the experience that has been gained and the arrangements that have been made in other United Nations centres;

XIII

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

1. *Recalls* section VIII, paragraph 6, of its resolution 33/116 B of 21 December 1978 governing the adjustment of the level of compensation of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

2. *Approves* as an interim measure, pending a review at its thirty-fifth session, an annual compensation of \$59,000 to the two full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, with an additional allowance of \$5,000 for the Chairman of the Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, effective 1 January 1980;

XIV

FINANCING OF THE TRAVEL OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN CONSULTATION MEETINGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Approves an appropriation of \$100,000 under section 17 of the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981 for the travel of representatives of the least developed countries to participate in consultation meetings of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, it being understood that this constitutes an exception to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962.

111th plenary meeting
20 December 1979