

United Nations GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Wednesday, 27 October 1965,
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Agenda item 79:

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly:

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Agenda item 75:

Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1964

Report of the Fifth Committee

President: Mr. Amintore FANFANI (Italy).

In the absence of the President, Mr. Sidi Baba (Morocco), Vice-President took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEM 79

Appointments to fill vacancies in the membership of the General Assembly:

- (a) *Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;*
- (b) *Committee on Contributions;*
- (c) *Board of Auditors*

REPORTS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE
(A/6061, 6062, 6063)

AGENDA ITEM 75

Supplementary estimates for the financial year 1964

REPORT OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE (A/6075)

1. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I call upon the Rapporteur to introduce, in a single statement, the Fifth Committee's reports on the two items on this meeting's agenda.

2. Mr. PRUSA (Czechoslovakia), Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee: I have the honour to submit for the consideration of the General Assembly four reports of the Fifth Committee. Three of these deal with the appointments recommended by the Committee to fill vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Committee on Contributions and the Board of Auditors. They do not call for comment on my part.

3. The remaining report concerns the supplementary estimates for the financial year 1964. Because of the exceptional circumstances in which the nineteenth session of the General Assembly was held, these

estimates were examined by the Fifth Committee some nine months after the close of the financial year in question and, indeed, several months after the related accounts had been audited. A further and more satisfactory consequence of this delay is illustrated in the table contained in paragraph 3 of the report, which shows that whereas the supplementary appropriation initially recommended in November 1964 by the Advisory Committee amounted to \$2,339,000,^{1/} it proved possible to limit the actual expenditure to \$1,621,327. That is the amount of the supplementary appropriation which the Fifth Committee recommends in draft resolution A [A/6075, para. 13].

Pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of Procedure, it was decided not to discuss the reports of the Fifth Committee.

4. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 79 (a) [A/6061] concerns an appointment to fill a vacancy in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. The draft resolution recommended by the Committee will be found in paragraph 5 of the report. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly adopts this draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

5. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 79 (b) [A/6062] concerns the vacancies which will occur in the membership of the Committee on Contributions. The draft resolution submitted by the Fifth Committee is in paragraph 5 of the report. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the Assembly adopts this draft resolution.

The draft resolution was adopted.

6. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): The report of the Fifth Committee on agenda item 79 (c) [A/6063] deals with an appointment to fill a vacancy which will occur on 30 June 1966 in the membership of the Board of Auditors. If there is no objection, I shall take it that the General Assembly adopts the draft resolution of the Fifth Committee, which is in paragraph 5 of its report.

The draft resolution was adopted.

7. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): We now come to agenda item 75, on which the Fifth Committee has recommended three draft resolutions. Before submitting these draft resolutions to the General Assembly, I call on the USSR representative, who wishes to explain his vote.

^{1/} See document A/5787.

8. Mr. GREN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (translated from Russian): The delegation of the Soviet Union wishes to make a statement in explanation of its vote on the draft resolution relating to the supplementary estimates for 1964.

9. The USSR delegation considers that United Nations expenditure for 1964, as a whole, and for the maintenance of an inflated Secretariat in particular, was inexcusably high. The USSR delegation has repeatedly stressed that the Secretariat staff is too large and that it could be reduced considerably without any detriment to the normal functioning of the Organization. Nothing, however, has been done in this direction. Moreover, in the section relating to staff, an over-expenditure of more than \$1 million has been allowed to occur.

10. The USSR delegation wishes to state that a number of expenses were included in the United Nations budget for 1964 illegally, in violation of the provisions of the United Nations Charter. Such expenditure includes, in the first place, the appropriations for the amortization of the United Nations loan, the proceeds from which have gone to finance illegal United Nations operations in the Congo and in the Middle East. In the present circumstances, any attempt to compel Members to pay for the servicing of the United Nations loan is inadmissible and can only lead to further complications in the financial operations of the Organization.

11. The USSR delegation objects to the financing of a number of special missions and the United Nations Field Service, established in violation of the Charter and not justified by any practical necessity; these include the notorious Commission on Korea. It also objects to the payment of the costs of the so-called "memorial cemetery" in Korea. The Soviet Union has not paid that part of its contribution which relates to the payment of expenditure incurred under those headings in the 1964 budget.

12. The USSR delegation also considers it necessary to state that it does not agree with the inclusion in

the regular budget of the United Nations of expenses relating to the financing of technical assistance measures, since such a system of financing technical assistance leads to an unnecessary dissipation of resources and excessive administrative costs. Furthermore, under present conditions, technical assistance measures under the regular programme are carried out without adequate participation by USSR experts. The Soviet Union had paid its contribution relating to expenditure under sections 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 of the 1964 budget into the United Nations account at the Vneshtorgbank of the USSR, in USSR currency.

13. In view of these objections concerning the nature of the United Nations budget for 1964, the USSR delegation will vote against the resolution approving the supplementary estimates for the financial year 1964.

14. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): I now invite the General Assembly to vote on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Fifth Committee in its report [A/6075, para. 13]. I put to the vote draft resolution A.

Draft resolution A was adopted by 67 votes, to 10, with 3 abstentions.

15. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): Since draft resolutions B and C were approved without objection by the Fifth Committee, may I take it that the General Assembly, too, adopts them without objection?

Draft resolutions B and C were adopted.

16. The PRESIDENT (translated from French): We have concluded this afternoon's agenda. Before adjourning the meeting, I should like to say — and I am sure that I express the general feeling — that we are all impatiently waiting for Mr. Fanfani to resume his place among us and once again to perform his duties as President of the General Assembly.

The meeting rose at 3.25 p.m.