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PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

Financial implications of the draft resolutions proposed  
by the First Committee (A/3008; A/3022 and Corr.1)

Twenty-seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and  
Budgetary Questions to the tenth session of the General Assembly

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered a report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/649) submitting the financial implications of the draft resolutions approved by the First Committee at its 771st and 782nd meetings, and concerning respectively the peaceful uses of atomic energy (A/3008) and the effects of atomic radiation (A/3022 and Corr.1).
2. A summary of the financial implications for 1956 is given in paragraph 9 of document A/C.5/649. Under clause (i) of that paragraph, the Secretary-General proposes the inclusion in the 1956 budget of \$62,000 in respect of sessions of the Advisory Committee established under General Assembly resolution 810 B (IX) of 4 December 1954 and of the proposed scientific committee on atomic radiation. As regards the proposed two sessions of the Advisory Committee, which account for \$19,000 of this figure of \$62,000, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has some doubt whether more than one session will in fact prove necessary. The Committee is nevertheless prepared, in view of the importance of the matters with which the Advisory Committee on Atomic Energy is charged, to concur in the provision of the full amount of \$19,000 proposed by the Secretary-General, to cover two sessions of the Advisory Committee, of which the second may be held in Europe.

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3. In addition, \$43,000 (or the balance of the figure of \$62,000 cited in clause (i) of paragraph 9) is proposed for sessions of the Committee on Atomic Radiation to be held during 1956. This sum comprises two sessions at Headquarters - not exceeding four weeks in all - and covers the payment of travel and subsistence to the fifteen members of the Committee. The Secretary-General argues in paragraph 5 (v) that "having regard to the purpose for which the Committee to deal with matters of atomic radiation is proposed to be established and to its terms of reference, and to the fact that its members, though representatives of Governments, will be appointed and will be required to function as scientific experts serving the United Nations as a whole, their travel and subsistence expenses, as in the case of the Advisory Committee", should be borne by the United Nations.

4. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has given careful attention to this point. It has compared the status of the participants in the 1955 Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy with that of the proposed members of the committee on atomic radiation (scientific committee). As regards the 1955 Conference, the relevant resolution of the General Assembly invited "all States Members of the United Nations or of the specialized agencies to participate in the conference and to include among their representatives individual experts competent in the atomic energy field". The draft resolution proposed by the First Committee (A/3022) establishes a scientific committee composed of fourteen Member States and one non-member State and requests the Governments of the countries concerned each to designate one scientist to be its representative on this committee.

5. It appears therefore, from a comparison of the two texts, that the status of the members of the scientific committee, as representatives of Governments, would be virtually identical with that of the participants in the Geneva Conference of 1955. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions is inclined, on balance, to consider that the travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the scientific committee should be borne in accordance with the accepted United Nations principle, by the Governments concerned. In the event, however, that this view is not shared by the

General Assembly, the cost of the two sessions is, in the Advisory Committee's opinion, reasonably estimated by the Secretary-General at \$43,000.

6. As regards the financial implications summarized in paragraph 9(ii) of A/C.5/649, the Secretary-General has estimated requirements in respect of established posts at \$26,100, comprising \$14,000 in respect of one post of Principal Officer for a secretary to the scientific committee, who will, in addition, attend to preparatory work between sessions of that committee, and assume other responsibilities arising out of the draft resolutions in question, and \$12,100 in respect of one post of Assistant Officer, and two General Service posts.

7. Where the post of Principal Officer is concerned, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions is prepared, in view of the strong representations of the Secretary-General, to concur in the proposed provision of \$14,000, even though a valid case might, in its opinion, be made for relying on the one hand, on the technical experts available in the scientific committee and, on the other hand, on the extensive administrative experience already available in the Secretariat. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions is informed that the direction of activities will, subject to the supervisory authority of the Secretary-General, remain in the hands of the two Under-Secretaries without Department, assisted by senior officials of the Secretariat, including the holder of the post now under consideration. As regards the remaining established posts proposed by the Secretary-General, these might reasonably be found, as and when required, by transfer from other departments of the Secretariat.

8. Finally, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concurs in the provision of \$13,000 for consultant services, for the purposes specified in paragraph 7 (iii) of A/C.5/649, as well as in the proposal that additional costs which may arise under the draft resolutions should be dealt with under the resolution relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses. Such costs could be incurred with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

9. Should the Fifth Committee share the views outlined above, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions would recommend that, upon adoption of the two draft resolutions, the following amounts should be added to the 1956 budget:

- (a) Under section 1- for sessions of the Advisory Committee...\$19,000.
  - (b) Under section 62 - for a post of Principal Officer..... 14,000.
  - (c) Under section 13 - in respect of consultant services..... 13,000.
- Total .....\$46,000.

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