



Thirteenth session

EFFECTS OF ATOMIC RADIATION

Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening
and widening of scientific activities in the field
of the effects of atomic radiation

Statement of financial implications submitted by
the Secretary-General

1. In document A/3864 the Secretary-General expresses the view that the Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation should be prolonged, and he suggests that some broadening of the Committee's terms of reference might now be considered. These proposals would have financial implications of a continuing nature.
2. Funds specially appropriated for the activities of the Committee in 1958 amount to \$106,000, of which \$56,000 is for two New York meetings of the Scientific Committee and \$50,000 is for the appointment of scientific experts. The latter sum is being utilized to obtain the services of five scientific experts at the senior officer level. Additionally, the Secretary-General is providing the Scientific Committee's Secretary and supporting general service personnel from his regular establishment at an approximate cost for the year of \$26,000.
3. Pending a decision of the General Assembly as to the future of the Scientific Committee, none of these amounts has been carried forward in the Secretary-General's initial budget estimates for 1959.
4. If, as is recommended by the Secretary-General, the Scientific Committee is established as a continuing United Nations body, the minimum provision that would need to be added to the budget for 1959 is estimated at \$176,000 on this basis:

- (a) Continued provision for the equivalent of two sessions of the Committee, totalling 10 weeks per year (including the possibility of ad hoc working groups) \$56,000
- (b) Provision for the Committee Secretary (D-1 level) and one General Service staff member (G-4), involving salary costs of \$22,000 and related staff costs of \$4,000 \$26,000
- (c) Provision for the employment on a year-round basis of some five scientific experts (\$69,000 for salaries and \$13,000 for related common staff costs) \$82,000
- (d) Provision for supplementary General Service staff (two secretaries at G-3 on a year-round basis; \$9,200 for salaries and \$1,800 for related common staff costs) \$11,000
- (e) Provision for purchase of books and periodicals \$ 1,000

5. Prolongation of the Committee would enable it to keep up to date its comprehensive report and to intensify the "watch dog" role referred to in the report of the Secretary-General (A/3864, para. 7). The further broadening of its terms of reference mentioned in the Secretary-General's report might include: expanded research in such specific fields as are mentioned in the Committee's own comprehensive report to the General Assembly (A/3838);^{1/} and the sponsoring of certain operational functions, such as a modest programme of publications and possible rendering of assistance in the form of experts and equipment and through the co-operative development of some form of international monitoring service. In all these activities, the Scientific Committee would continue to work very closely with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and, as is now the case, would provide a framework within which other governmental

^{1/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirteenth Session, Supplement No. 17.

and non-governmental institutions can co-operate on specific matters of common interest. It is intended that any proposals which the Committee might develop for the sponsoring of conferences, symposia and seminars would be put to the General Assembly for its prior approval.

6. If this kind of strengthening and widening of United Nations activities in the field of atomic radiation were to commend itself to the General Assembly, appropriate financial provision for it might best be made, at least in the first year of 1959, by a lump-sum provision in section 1, as part of the Scientific Committee's budget. In the absence at this stage of any firm basis for estimating such costs in detail, the Secretary-General would suggest that a tentative ceiling of perhaps \$50,000 might appropriately be established.

7. In summary, the additional expenditures for 1959 which are foreseen in event of full implementation of the Secretary-General's proposals are:

Section 1	\$106,000
Section 6	\$100,200
Section 7	\$ 18,800
Section 12	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
	<u>\$226,000</u>
