ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE ARMAMENTS
RACE AND ITS EXTREMELY HARMFUL EFFECTS ON WORLD
PEACE AND SECURITY

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1971

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
recommended by the First Committee (A/8184, para. 7)

Twelfth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and
Budgetary Questions to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth
session on the budget estimates for 1971

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has
considered the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/1345) on the administrative and
financial implications of the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee
(A/8184, para. 7).

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution the General
Assembly would request the Secretary-General to prepare, with the assistance of
qualified consultant experts appointed by him, a report on "the economic and social
consequences of the arms race and of military expenditures". The Secretary-General
estimates that to carry out that task additional appropriations of $153,100 would
be required in 1971 to cover travel, subsistence and fees of the consultant experts,
together with interpretation and the translation, typing and printing of 1,100 pages
of documentation. The estimate is based on the assumption that the services of
twelve consultant experts would be required (including some government experts not
entitled to receive fees), and that they would hold three series of meetings at
United Nations Headquarters, with a total duration of about five weeks.

3. In its consideration of the above estimates the Advisory Committee recalled
that under the terms of a draft resolution approved by the Second Committee on
23 November 1970 (A/C.2/L.1124/Rev.1, as orally amended), the Assembly would ask
the Secretary-General to prepare, in consultation with such advisers as he deemed
necessary, a report containing inter alia proposals establishing a link between the
Disarmament Decade and the Second United Nations Development Decade. The Secretary-
General estimated the cost of implementing that proposal at $65,000, divided between
1971 and 1972; he undertook to endeavour to provide the 1971 costs, amounting to
$37,500, from within the resources available to him during that year (A/C.5/1343).

70-27779
4. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that the purposes of the two reports, as set out in the respective draft resolutions, would not be the same; in the circumstances the Secretary-General did not envisage making use of the same experts to prepare both reports. It appeared to the Advisory Committee, however, that some of the documentation arising from the meetings of consultant experts referred to in paragraph 2 above might be useful in the preparation of the report requested in the draft resolution approved by the Second Committee. In the interests of efficiency and economy the Advisory Committee would therefore strongly urge the Secretary-General to ensure that the Secretariat units concerned co-operate closely so that whatever documentation and resources could serve the purposes of both groups be made available to them.

5. Taking into account the above observations, the Fifth Committee may wish to inform the General Assembly that adoption of the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee would require an additional appropriation of $153,100 for 1971, consisting of $150,800 under section 3, chapter III (Other temporary assistance), and $2,300 under section 11 (Printing).