Twenty-seventh session
Agenda items 34 and 73

DECLARATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1973

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.1/L.631/Rev.1

Twenty-first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary
Questions to the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session on the
budget estimates for 1973

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered
the statement of administrative and financial implications (A/C.5/1489) of the
draft resolution on the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, which
was adopted by the First Committee at its 1911th meeting (A/C.1/L.631/Rev.1), and
which provides, inter alia, for the establishment of an ad hoc committee of not
more than 15 members called upon to report to the General Assembly at its
twenty-eighth session.

2. The Secretary-General bases his estimate of $25,500 on the assumption that the
Committee will meet in New York from 4 to 29 June 1973, and that it will require
interpretation and documentation in the five official languages of the Organization;
no summary records will be provided. Most of the cost is attributable by the
Secretary-General to the need to recruit free-lance interpreters for the full period
of the ad hoc Committee's session as regular-staff interpretation resources will
be fully committed for other meetings.

3. The Advisory Committee was informed that developments since the issue of the
report by the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences (A/8790/Add.1 and
Add.2) have added considerably to the workload of the interpretation section in
New York. Nonetheless, the Committee believes that some spare capacity still
exists. Moreover, one should not exclude the possibility of further adjustments
in the conference schedule in New York which might release regular staff resources.
4. In the circumstances, and bearing in mind that it is still not certain that the ad hoc committee will in fact need a session of the length assumed by the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee is not convinced that the need for additional appropriations has been adequately demonstrated. The Committee recommends that the Secretary-General endeavour so to re-arrange the conference schedule as to dispense with the need for free-lance interpreters or, if that does not prove entirely possible, to meet such additional requirements as might arise out of the provision for section 3 already approved by the Fifth Committee in first reading.

5. Accordingly, the Fifth Committee may wish to inform the General Assembly that, should it approve the draft resolution recommended by the First Committee (A/C.1/L.631/Rev.1), no additional appropriation would be required under the budget for 1973.