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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE
MIDDLE EAST: UNITED NATIONS DISENGAGEMENT OBSERVER FORCE

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Etien NINOV (Bulgaria)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 22 September 1989, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-fourth session, and to allocate to the Fifth Committee, the item entitled:

"Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East:

"(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

"(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon;

"(c) Review of the rates of reimbursement to the Governments of troop-contributing States".

2. The Fifth Committee considered sub-item (a) of agenda item 133 at its 58th meeting, on 18 December 1989. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (A/44/630) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/44/867).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/44/L.11

3. At the 58th meeting, on 18 December, the representative of Canada introduced a draft resolution (A/C.5/44/L.11), sponsored by Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Ireland, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Poland and Sweden.

4. At the same meeting the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 6).

5. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this sub-item are reflected in the relevant summary records (see A/C.5/SR.58).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, 1/ as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 350 (1974) of 31 May 1974, by which the Council established the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was resolution 645 (1989) of 29 November 1989,

Recalling its resolution 3211 B (XXIX) of 29 November 1974 on the financing of the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force and subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 43/8 of 21 December 1988,

Reaffirming its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by such operations, a different procedure from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations is required,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards peace-keeping operations involving heavy expenditures,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council in the financing of such operations, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

1/ A/44/630.

2/ A/44/867.

Having regard to the financial position of the Special Account for the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, as set forth in the report of the Secretary-General, 1/ and referring to paragraph 5 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Recalling its resolution 33/13 E of 14 December 1978 and subsequent resolutions in which it decided that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations should be suspended, the latest of which was resolution 43/228,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Forces on a current basis, particularly those due to the Governments of troop-contributing States,

Recognizing that, in consequence of the withholding of contributions by certain Member States, the surplus balances in the Special Account for the United Nations Emergency Force and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force have, in effect, been drawn upon to the full extent to supplement the income received from contributions for meeting expenses of the Forces,

Concerned that the application of the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations would aggravate the already difficult financial situation of the Forces,

Mindful of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee 3/ on the requests of some Member States to change their placement in the existing groups "b", "c" and "d" of Member States, on the basis of the criteria set out in General Assembly resolution 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973,

1. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account referred to in section II, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 3211 B (XXIX) the amount of 18,114,000 United States dollars gross (17,778,000 dollars net) authorized and apportioned in paragraph 6 of Assembly resolution 43/228 for the operation of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1989, inclusive;

2. Decides also to appropriate to the Special Account an amount of 20,208,000 dollars for the operation of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 1 December 1989 to 31 May 1990, inclusive;

3/ See A/C.5/44/SR.43 and 45-49.

3. Decides further, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amount of 20,208,000 dollars for the above-mentioned period among Member States, in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, to be adjusted by the decision to be taken by the Assembly at its forty-fourth session on the composition of the four groups "a", "b", "c" and "d" of Member States and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1989, 1990 and 1991; 4/

4. Decides that there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the estimated income of 6,500 dollars other than staff assessment income approved for the period from 1 December 1989 to 31 May 1990, inclusive;

5. Decides also that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 3 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 503,500 dollars approved for the period from 1 December 1989 to 31 May 1990, inclusive;

6. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force at a rate not to exceed 3,368,000 dollars gross (3,283,000 dollars net) per month for the period from 1 June to 30 November 1990, inclusive, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 645 (1989), the said amount to be apportioned among Member States in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution;

7. Decides that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations shall be suspended in respect of the amount of 2,024,706 dollars, which otherwise would have to be surrendered pursuant to those provisions, this amount to be entered into the account referred to in the operative part of General Assembly resolution 33/13 E and held in suspense until a further decision is taken by the Assembly;

8. Stresses the need for voluntary contributions to the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, both in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy.

4/ See resolution 43/223 A.