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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RECORD OF THE EIGHTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at the Austria Center Vienna on Wednesday, 23 September 1992, at 6.50 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. EL-SAIEDI (Egypt)

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The composition of delegations attending the session is given in document GC(XXXVI)/INF/313/Rev.2.

^[*] GC(XXXVI)/1027.

Abbreviations used in this record.

GRULAC Latin American and Caribbean Group

STAFFING OF THE AGENCY'S SECRETARIAT (GC(XXXV)/RES/564, GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/112) (resumed)

- 1. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that the sponsors of the draft resolution contained in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/112 had discussed possible amendments with the representatives of Algeria and India.
- 2. Mr. DAVIES (Secretary to the Committee) said that agreement had been reached on various amendments to the draft resolution. Preambular paragraph (e) would begin, "Recalling further the provisions of Article VII.D of the Statute and Regulation 3.01 on Appointments and Promotions ... ". Operative paragraph 1 would read: "Requests the Director General to intensify his efforts to increase the number of women in the Secretariat, and particularly women from developing countries, specifically in senior policy—making posts, through the recruitment of suitably qualified women". In operative paragraph 3, the word "young" had been deleted, and the phrase "by Member States for" had replaced the words "initially for junior". Part of operative paragraph 4 had been amended to read " ... suitably qualified women, and particularly women from developing countries, to posts in the Professional and higher catagories ... ".
- 3. Mr. RIOBO PINONES (Chile) said that the amendment to operative paragraph 3 seemed to deprive it of all meaning. He had understood that young women were to be appointed as a medium-term measure in order to build up a reservoir of qualified women for future appointments. If the word "young" were deleted, then the words "medium-term measure" should also be deleted, or else the entire paragraph should be removed. He also suggested that the words "without budgetary implications" be added to operative paragraph 4.
- 4. Mr. PELEN (France) asked whether the Director General was being encouraged to set up specific activities for which women could be recruited. If that was not the case, the word "measures" might be more appropriate than the word "activities" in operative paragraph 4. He also suggested using the wording "for encouraging" rather than "designed to encourage" in the same paragraph.
- 5. Mr. DAVIES (Secretary to the Committee) suggested combining the amendments requested by the representatives of France and Chile by replacing

the word "activities" in operative paragraph 4 by the words " ... measures, within the available resources, for encouraging the appointment of suitably qualified women ... ".

- 6. Mr. HOGG (Australia) said that the resolution appeared to have lost some of its original thrust. It had originally been concerned with women in general, but was now weighted in favour of women from developing countries. He suggested a further addition, namely to add the words "and by women from countries which are under-represented in the Secretariat" to follow the references to women from developing countries, so that all aspects of the issue would be covered.
- Mr. PRAKASH (India) said that the aim of the limited working group which had reviewed the draft resolution was to keep the language in conformity with that adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. If other elements were to be introduced, then there were also further issues that would have to be considered, such as geographical distribution, the requirements of the Statute, levels of contributions and so on. The aim of the resolution had been to tackle the issue of women, in particular those who were doubly at a disadvantage because they came from an environment where advancement was relatively difficult. The amended text of the resolution was in accordance with the wording agreed on after lengthy negotiations in the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, and used by the Commission on the Status of Women.
- 8. Mr. PELEN (France) shared the view of the representative of India that the language used in resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women would be appropriate to the present resolution.
- 9. Mr. HOGG (Australia) said that his proposed amendment was also based on language used at a recent meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women.
- 10. Mr. PRAKASH (India) said that his delegation had based its amendments on the language of a General Assembly resolution from the previous year. If an alternative was available from a resolution adopted at a more recent session of the Third Committee, then he was prepared to consider it.

- 11. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that the resolution appeared to be becoming increasingly complicated. The Committee should decide whether to leave further discussion of the draft until the next morning, or to accept the resolution without further amendments and monitor its results over the next year.
- 12. The representatives of Germany, Poland and the United States of America expressed their support for the second alternative proposed by the Chairman.
- 13. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> assumed that the Committee wished to recommend the draft resolution, with the suggested amendments, to the General Conference.
- 14. It was so decided.

FINANCING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (GC(XXXV)/RES/562, GC(XXXVI)/1022 and Add.1) (resumed)

- 15. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u>, suggested that the Committee return to item 16, the financing of technical assistance, and asked the representative of Nigeria whether the proposed amendment[1] to the draft resolution in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/107 was acceptable to the Group of 77.
- 16. Mr. OKONKWO (Nigeria) said that extensive discussions had taken place on the present draft resolution. Operative paragraph 1 did not in any way deviate from the wording of the report by the Chairman of the informal working group on the financing of technical assistance, which had already been approved by the Board. The Group of 77 was convinced that adoption of the resolution with its present wording was unlikely to harm the interests of any group. He therefore appealed to the representatives of the United States to approve the resolution in its present form.
- 17. Mr. STRATFORD (United States of America) said that his proposal had been based on his understanding of the working group's report and the discussion of that item in the Board, where he had noted that 53% of the Member States responding to the questions had apparently preferred the present funding arrangement based on voluntary contributions. However, in the interests of expediting the work of the committee, he was prepared to withdraw his suggestion.

^[1] See GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/OR.83, para. 9.

- 18. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said he assumed that the Committee wished to recommend to the Conference that it adopt the draft resolution in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/107, without any amendments.
- 19. It was so agreed.

THE FINANCING OF SAFEGUARDS (GC(XXXV)/RES/561) (resumed)

Draft resolution on arrangements for the assessment of members' contributions towards the safeguards component of the Agency's Regular Budget for each of the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 (GC(XXXVI)/1010)

<u>Draft resolution proposed by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on the continuation of the Informal Working Group on the Financing of Safeguards (GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/115)</u>

- 20. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that the purpose of the resolution in Annex 1 to document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/1010 was to extend the present financial arrangements for a further three years. In addition, he had taken the liberty of proposing the draft resolution set out in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/115 to ensure that the Informal Working Group on the Financing of Safeguards continued its work.
- 21. In reply to points raised by the representatives of Colombia and France, he said that the Spanish text would be properly aligned with the English, and that an error in the second line of the French text would be rectified.
- 22. There being no objection, he took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolutions contained in documents GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/1010 and GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/115.
- 23. It was so decided.

AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE VI.A.2. OF THE STATUTE (GC(XXXV)/RES/565, GC(XXXVI)/1023 and Add.1, GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/117)

The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that a report to the General Conference by the Board of Governors pursuant to resolution GC(XXXV)/RES/565, adopted by the General Conference in 1991, was contained in document GC(XXXVI)/1023; the summary record of the Board's discussion on the matter in September 1992 was contained in Addendum 1 to that document. The Committee also had before it a draft resolution submitted by Algeria on behalf of the African group and Saudi Arabia on behalf of the Asian group in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/117.

- 25. Mr.ELYSEY FILHO (Brazil) said that his delegation had difficulty with the reference to resolution GC(XXI)/RES/353 contained in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/117, since GRULAC had decided that it would be preferable to retain the wording of the resolution exactly as adopted by the General Conference the previous year. He therefore proposed that the text adopted the previous session be taken over without change.
- 26. <u>Ms. KSENTINI</u> (Algeria) said that the reference to resolution GC(XXI)/RES/353 had been carefully considered by the African and Asian groups, which supported the resolution as it now stood.
- 27. Mr. HASHIMI (Pakistan) said that the purpose of referring once again to resolution GC(XXI)/RES/353 had been to underline its distinctive status as the original resolution on which all later ones had been based. The issue went back to 1977, and each resolution adopted since then had referred to those adopted in previous years, resolution GC(XXV)/RES/389 mentioning the basic resolution GC(XXI)/RES/353 and many others. He therefore appealed to the representative of Brazil to agree to the text as presented.
- Mr. ELYSEY FILHO (Brazil) said that the matter had been discussed at length within GRULAC and that it had been a group decision to accept a reference only to the later resolution. The problem was that the 1977 resolution made specific mention of two regions which might arguably be said to be under-represented. However, to single out two under-represented regions in that way was to prejudge the future position. His delegation would have great difficulty in accepting anything other than the text adopted at the 35th session of the General Conference.
- 29. Mr. ORNSTEIN (Argentina) supported Brazil's position.
- 30. Mr. FARAHAT (Egypt) said that, as he recalled, resolution GC(XXI)/RES/353 had been adopted by a consensus decision of the General Conference. It was regrettable that that resolution had not yet been implemented. It had nevertheless been the source of all later resolutions on the subject, and the African group deemed it necessary to remind the

Conference of their origin. He therefore urged the representative of Brazil and other representatives belonging to GRULAC to reconsider their position in that perspective.

- 31. Mr. CAMPUZANO (Mexico) proposed, in a spirit of conciliation, that the reference to resolution GC(XXI)/RES/353 be deleted and that preambular paragraph (b) be amended to read:
 - "(b) Reiterating the urgent need to implement General Conference resolution GC(XXV)/RES/389 and other relevant General Conference resolutions,".
- 32. Mr. RIOBO PINONES (Chile) and Mr. GUZMAN (Cuba) supported that proposal.
- 33. <u>Ms. KSENTINI</u> (Algeria) said that, having consulted a number of colleagues in the African group, her delegation could agree to the Mexican proposal, provided that the last phrase read, "... and all other relevant General Conference resolutions,".
- 34. Mr. ELYSEY FILHO (Brazil) said that his delegation could accept the Mexican proposal as amended by Algeria.
- 35. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u>, noting that there seemed to be agreement on the Mexican proposal as amended by Algeria, took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution contained in document GC(XXXVI)/COM.5/117 as amended by Mexico and Algeria.
- 36. It was so decided.

REVISION OF ARTICLE VI OF THE STATUTE AS A WHOLE (GC(XXXV)/RES/566, GC(XXXVI)/1024 and Add.1)

- 37. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that document GC(XXXVI)/1024 contained a report by the informal working group which had been considering the matter of the revision of Article VI of the Statute as a whole. The summary record of the Board's discussion on the matter in September 1992 was contained in Addendum 1 to that document.
- 38. No draft resolution had been submitted for the item; however, it was stated in paragraph 3 of document GC(XXXVI)/1024 that the Board recommended

that the General Conference should request it to establish a successor working group with the mandate set out in resolution GC(XXXV)/RES/566.

- 39. If the Committee so agreed, he would report orally to the General Conference that the Committee endorsed the Board's recommendation.
- 40. Mr. LAMPARELLI (Italy) supported the Chairman's proposal.
- 41. Mr. HASHIMI (Pakistan) said that the Chairman might also mention in his oral report that, as his delegation had stated in the Board, progress had been negligible and the Committee of the Whole hoped that some progress would be made in the coming year.
- 42. The <u>CHAIRMAN</u> said that, in the absence of any objection, he would report accordingly to the General Conference.

The meeting rose at 8 p.m.