

Committee by a vote of 84-0-2 (Afghanistan and Tanzania), and in plenary by a vote of 114-0-1 (Afghanistan). In an explanation of vote, the Canadian representative in the Fifth Committee said that, depending on how the resolution was implemented, it could further the attainment of objectives to which Canada subscribed — namely, the development of effective long-term plans formulated in the light of essential priorities, the adoption of a planning estimate, based on these long-term plans, for the second succeeding budgetary period, and the introduction of a system whereby both the programme review and budgetary review bodies would look at programmes in relation to costs.

One of the most important decisions of the Fifth Committee, from a Canadian point of view, was the adoption of a 38-power resolution, of which Canada was a co-sponsor, designed to improve the use of the working languages of the organization at all levels of the Secretariat. The resolution seeks to obtain this objective through the payment of a language bonus to staff who use two working languages and through the introduction of an accelerated language-instruction programme for Secretariat staff. The resolution also invites the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure the presence of staff using the different working languages of the United Nations in the services responsible for recruitment. Amendments to the resolution were introduced which would have removed any reference to the use of the working languages in the recruitment services, and invited the Secretary-General simply to study and report on the implications of introducing an accelerated language-instruction programme and some form of language-incentive system for staff in the professional category. These amendments were defeated, but the co-sponsors, in a gesture of compromise, agreed to include in the resolution a sentence indicating that the language-bonus system would not come into effect before 1969, thus enabling the Secretary-General to report to the twenty-third session on the practical measures involved in the implementation of a bonus and to consider other incentives which might further the objectives of the resolution. Because of the inclusion of this sentence, a number of states that voted against the resolution in Committee either abstained or voted in favour in plenary, and the resolution was carried by a vote of 88 (Canada)-0-30. In a separate resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to achieve a better geographical distribution of staff at all levels of the Secretariat and to include in his future reports on the composition of the Secretariat a weighted table which would show the number of posts held by each country taking into account the level of those positions.

Because of the withdrawal of the United Nations Emergency Force (UNEF) from the Middle East in June 1967, there was no need to appropriate funds to finance the Force in 1968. However, in his report to the Fifth Committee on the revised cost-estimates for the maintenance of the Force in 1967, which were lower than the appropriation made at the twenty-first session because of withdrawal, the Secretary-General indicated that the UNEF account would have to be kept open at least until the end of 1968 to meet any outstanding claims