

Fifth Committee

A French proposal for a detailed study of the financial situation of the UN and its Specialized Agencies emerged as one of the most significant items before the Fifth (Administrative and Budgetary) Committee. As a result, the General Assembly decided, on December 14, to establish a 14-member *ad hoc* committee of experts to examine the finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. At the same time, the Secretariat was asked to prepare a balance-sheet of the organization's financial situation as of September 30, 1965, by making a detailed analysis of expenses for each type of activity. The committee of experts is to submit recommendations to the next session of the Assembly on ways to improve the use of available funds and to ensure that any expansion of activities takes account of both needs and costs.

During this period, the Fifth Committee recommended appointments to the Administrative Tribunal, held elections to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), and approved a number of recommendations of this advisory body. It also adopted a new scale of assessments for contributions to UN expenses, based on the report of the Committee on Contributions. The new scales of assessment, which will be used in calculating each member state's contribution to the UN regular budget for the years 1965-67, range from 0.04 per cent for 51 members, to 31.91 per cent for the U.S.A. Canada's assessment rate is 3.17 per cent.

Sixth Committee

On the recommendation of its Sixth (Legal) Committee, the General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution recommending that the International Law Commission continue its work on the codification and progressive development of the law of treaties and of special missions (Item 87). It also adopted a number of amendments to the Assembly's Rules of Procedure consequent upon the entry into force of the Charter amendments enlarging the membership of the Security Council from 11 to 15 and the Economic and Social Council from 18 to 27.

During much of this period, the Sixth Committee continued its discussion of Item 90 (Principles of International Law Concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States) and debated various draft resolutions on this subject. It considered Item 92 (Progressive Development of Private International Law) and approved a resolution asking the Secretary-General to submit to the next session of the Assembly a survey of work in the field of unification of the law of international trade. The Committee also recommended that the Assembly resume work at its 1966 session on the Draft Declaration on the Right of Asylum, with a view to completing the text as a whole.