



GENERAL CONFERENCE
Fifteenth Regular Session
Tlatelolco, Mexico City, 10 July 1997.

RESOLUTION CG/Res.364 (XV)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

The General Conference,

Considering the contents of Resolution 106 (V), which established the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters;

Taking into account the provisions of Article 12 of the Financial Regulations, amended through Resolution 312 (E-VIII), which provides the Committee on Contributions with broad powers to assist the Secretary General in all the Agency's administrative and budgetary matters;

Bearing in mind the contents of Resolution 340 (E-X), especially regarding the need to carry out an analysis of the scale of contributions and to review the Financial and the Staff Regulations in order to adapt them, if applicable, to the Agency's real situation;

Having studied in depth the Report of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters;

Taking into account the recommendations of the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters regarding the need to devise mechanisms designed to solve the economic problems that beset the Agency and hinder its proper operation;

Stressing the importance of complying strictly with the different legal provisions that govern the Agency's financial management;

Agreeing on the need to initiate a thorough, in-depth study of the different regulations that govern the Agency's financial operation in order to adapt them to its new needs;

Recognizing that OPANAL's difficult financial situation also stems from arrears in the payments of the contributions of some of its members;

Taking into consideration the need to have sufficient time to evaluate the 1998-1999 Draft Budget presented by the Secretary General, and to carry out the necessary consultations with the respective Governments regarding the Agency's financial situation,

Resolves:

1. **To support** the evaluation and the recommendations contained in the Report presented by the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters, while acknowledging the need to improve the Agency's finances as soon as possible.
2. **To urge** respectfully all the Member States of OPANAL to fulfill their economic obligations to the Agency or initiate negotiations with the Secretariat to cancel their debts definitively.
3. **To instruct** the Secretary General and the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters to take the necessary measures to ensure future compliance with Article 5.01.5 of the Staff Regulations, which stipulates that all the salaries and benefits of local Secretariat staff should be set and paid in the currency of the host country.
4. **To request** the Secretary General and the Committee on Contributions and Administrative and Budgetary Matters to prepare a study of the Financial Regulations, the Staff Regulations and the Staff Pensions and Retirement Fund, so that once the pertinent recommendations or necessary amendments have been made, said instruments may be modified in order to reorganize and put the Agency's economic and financial situation definitively on a sound footing.
5. **To annul** Resolution 231 of the Tenth Regular Session of the General Conference, which authorized the Secretary General to utilize the Staff Pensions and Retirement Fund for "the proper functioning of the Agency in view of the lack of available funds".
6. **To instruct** the Committee on Contributions to make an evaluation in order to devise formulas to recover the Staff Pensions and Retirement Fund, taking into consideration the economies suggested by the Secretary General in the 1998-1999 Draft Budget.
7. **To convene** a Special Session of the General Conference to be held in Mexico during the last quarter of 1997, the agenda of which should take into account the following items:

- a) The recommendations of the Secretary General and the Committee on Contributions stemming from the fulfillment of this Resolution,
- b) Collection of contributions and alternative means of restructuring the debts of Member States with the Agency.
- c) Possible permanent criteria for fixing the scale of contributions.
- d) Scale of contributions for the apportionment of Agency expenses and for the Working Capital Fund for the 1998-1999 fiscal biennium.
- e) Budget of the Agency for the 1998-1999 fiscal biennium.
- f) Working Capital Fund.

(Adopted at the 86th Session,
held on 10 July 1997)