

Mr. Willems had been unable to attend the meeting, the position Belgium would take up was not definitely known. Greece and Yugoslavia had not mentioned any figures, but their reticence might be understood, since theirs were special circumstances, and they probably would abstain from voting on the Budget. Finally, the Swedish Delegation was the only one that had definitely stated it could not vote in favour of a Budget figure of 56 million for 1958. Consequently it was probable that a fairly substantial majority could be found in favour of the payment of contributions totalling 56 million Swiss francs in 1958 and not exceeding 100 million for the years 1958 and 1959.

The CHAIRMAN thanked Mr. Bannier for explaining the position, which had become quite clear. He proposed that the following resolutions should be put to the vote in the Council:

1. that 56 million Swiss francs is the sum total of the contributions payable by Member States during 1958;
2. that the estimated total of contributions for the years 1958 and 1959 is 100 million Swiss francs.

It was so agreed.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that, even if the above resolutions were not adopted unanimously, it seemed that a sufficient number of delegates would vote for them to obtain the quasi unanimity which he had spoken of at the Sixth Session of the Council.

Mr. BANNIER said that, in accordance with the Convention, the Council must approve the Budget for 1958. As it was likely that the figure of 58.9 million proposed by the Director-General would be reduced to 56 million, it might be necessary to ask the Director-General to prepare a new draft Budget for submission to the Finance Committee.

The CHAIRMAN replied that he did not think it would be necessary to ask the Director-General to present a new Budget. He should merely be requested to amend this Budget in order not to exceed the total figure of 56 million Swiss francs for contributions in 1958. The Director-General should be instructed to use his discretion in planning expenditure to effect the necessary reduction in the proposed figure of 58.9 million to 56 million for the year 1958, consulting the Scientific Policy Committee and the Finance Committee as he considered necessary.

It was so agreed.