

Appendix 2

Proposed consolidated resolution on ordinary annual services of the government

(additions to the resolution of 17 February 1977 shown thus)

The Senate resolves:

- (1) To reaffirm its constitutional right to amend proposed laws appropriating revenue or moneys for expenditure on all matters not involving the ordinary annual services of the government.
- (2) That appropriations for expenditure on:
 - (a) the construction of public works and buildings;
 - (b) the acquisition of sites and buildings;
 - (c) items of plant and equipment which are clearly definable as capital expenditure (*but not including the acquisition of computers or the fitting out of buildings*)¹;
 - (d) grants to the states under section 96 of the Constitution;
 - (e) new policies not previously authorised by special legislation;
 - (f) *items regarded as equity injections and loans; and*
 - (g) *existing asset replacement (which is to be regarded as depreciation)*,²

are not appropriations for the ordinary annual services of the government and that proposed laws for the appropriation of revenue or moneys for expenditure on the said matters shall be presented to the Senate in a separate appropriation bill subject to amendment by the Senate.

- (3) *That, in respect of payments to international organisations:*
 - (a) *the initial payment in effect represents a new policy decision and therefore should be in Appropriation Bill (No. 2), and*

¹ Agreed in correspondence between the Appropriations and Staffing Committee and the Government, tabled in the Senate on 3 November 1988 and 4 April 1989.

² Paragraphs (f) and (g) proposed in the Appropriations and Staffing Committee's *Thirtieth Report*, adopted by the Senate on 22 April 1999.

- (b) *subsequent payments represent a continuing government activity of supporting the international organisation and therefore represent an ordinary annual service and should be in Appropriation Bill (No. 1).*³
- (4) *That all appropriation items for continuing activities for which appropriations have been made in the past be regarded as part of ordinary annual services.*⁴

³ Adapted from the resolution of the Senate of 8 December 2004, agreed to on the adoption of the committee's 41st report.

⁴ *Thirtieth Report*, adopted by the Senate on 22 April 1999.