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REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the General Assembly the following statement on supplementary payments by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination:

"The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination considered the comments and the finding of the International Civil Service Commission on the subject of supplementary payments made to international civil servants of certain nationalities by their Governments, which are submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session in the Commission's annual report (A/35/30, paras. 120-123). Because of its concern about the legal and practical implications of this practice, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination had requested the International Civil Service Commission to review the matter. For its part, when it considered the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination statement on the security and independence of the international civil service, the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) expressed the view that the matter on supplementary payments should also have been dealt with. The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination wishes to express appreciation for the review conducted by the International Civil Service Commission and concurs in the Commission's view that the practice of making supplementary payments of whatever nature to nationals while serving or having served as international civil servants in an international organization was unnecessary, inappropriate, undesirable and inconsistent with the provisions of staff regulations.

"The Commission has addressed itself to the question of the justification of such payments in relation to the adequacy of the remuneration of international officials. In the opinion of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, whether the level of remuneration of international officials is adequate or not, a basic issue of principle arises. Under Article 100 of the Charter, and the corresponding provisions of the constituent instruments of the specialized agencies, Member States have undertaken to respect the exclusively international character

of the responsibilities of the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities. Correspondingly the Staff Regulations of the United Nations and the specialized agencies prohibit staff members from accepting any honour, decoration, favour, gift or remuneration from any Government or source external to the Organization. Therefore, independently of the adequacy of international remuneration, making supplementary payments to international officials is inconsistent with the basic principles of the international civil service and must be regarded as unacceptable.

"The Administrative Committee on Co-ordination therefore endorses the recommendation addressed by the International Civil Service Commission to the General Assembly in paragraph 121 of its report and expresses the hope that the Assembly will invite Governments to put an end to this practice."
