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FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 49 and 114

### REVIEW OF THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL FUNCTIONING OF THE UNITED NATIONS

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman  
following informal consultations

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 42/213: progress  
report and revised estimates for the biennium 1988-1989

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations and 42/2 of 21 December 1987 on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213,

Reaffirming that measures to improve the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations and to improve the planning, programming and budgeting process should aim at and contribute to strengthening the effectiveness of the Organization in dealing with political, economic and social issues in order better to achieve the purposes of and respect for the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting from the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization 1/ that the emerging world situation is bound to impose additional responsibilities on the United Nations,

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fort. Third Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/43/1).

Reaffirming also that all Member States must honour, promptly and in full, their financial obligations as set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

Re-emphasizing that the financial stability of the Organization will facilitate the orderly, balanced and well co-ordinated implementation of resolution 41/213 in all its parts,

Having considered the relevant reports of the Secretary-General, 2/

Having considered also the relevant parts of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-eighth session 3/ and of the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 4/

Taking into account the views expressed by Member States during the consideration of these items at its forty-third session,

1. Renews its appeal to Member States to demonstrate their commitment to the United Nations by, inter alia, meeting their financial obligations on time and in full, in accordance with the Charter and the Financial Regulations of the United Nations;

2. Stresses that, in order to carry out successfully the process of reform and restructuring, it is essential that the present financial uncertainties be dispelled;

3. Welcomes the determination of the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to implement fully those recommendations of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations 5/ which fall within his purview as adopted in resolution 41/213 and in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 42/211;

4. Reiterates its support for the Secretary-General in the fulfilment of his responsibilities as chief administrative officer of the Organization;

5. Stresses that the implementation of its resolution 41/213 must not have a negative impact on mandated programmes and activities;

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2/ A/43/286 and Corr.1, A/43/324, A/43/524 and A/C.5/43/1/Rev.1 and Add.1 and 2.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/43/16, Corr.1 (Part I) and Add.1, A/43/16 (Part II) and Add.1).

4/ A/43/651 and Add.1 and A/43/929.

5/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

6. Emphasizes in this respect that, in accordance with the existing regulations and rules, while output revisions in programme budgets may be proposed in order to comply more efficiently with the objectives of those programmes and activities, outputs specifically requested in mandates should be fully delivered;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit his proposed revisions referred to in paragraph 6 above to the General Assembly in the context of proposed programme budgets;

8. Reiterates that further implementation of its resolution 41/213 should be carried out in a balanced way and with flexibility so as to improve the structure and composition of the Secretariat;

9. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of recommendation 15 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, as adjusted by a 10 per cent reduction in the staffing of conference services in New York and Geneva entailing an overall post reduction of 12.1 per cent by the end of the 1988-1989 biennium; and further endorses the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that the adjustment under section 29 of the programme budget should entail the restoration of 100 posts on the understanding that this restoration would not require additional appropriations for the 1988-1989 biennium;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to present, in the context of his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, concrete recommendations for absorbing the costs of the posts referred to above including, to the maximum extent possible, through the elimination of additional posts, under the criteria set out in paragraphs 5, 8, and 9 above and paragraphs 11 to 13 below;

11. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions pertaining to small offices, regional commissions and other units referred to therein, and also requests the Secretary-General to keep in mind the concerns expressed by Member States in the Fifth Committee on proposed reductions of staff in small units such as the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements;

12. Concurs with the comments and observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraph 33 of its report 6/ regarding the organization, functions and staffing of the administrative and common services unit at Nairobi;

13. Requests the Secretary-General in further implementing recommendation 15 to continue to take into account the following guidelines:

(a) This recommendation should be implemented flexibly taking due account of work-load analyses, where applicable;

(b) Its implementation should have no negative impact on programmes;

(c) Its implementation should have no adverse effect on the structure and composition of the Secretariat bearing in mind the necessity of securing the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity of staff with due regard to equitable geographical distribution;

(d) It should be implemented in a balanced manner, taking into account recommendations 41, 46, 47 and 54;

14. Invites the Secretary-General to continue the implementation of recommendations 41, 46, 47 and 54 and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session in the context of the report referred to in paragraph 18 below;

15. Invites the Secretary-General as regards recommendation 19, to proceed with the reclassification of the post as indicated in paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's report; 7/

16. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as regards recommendation 25, relating to the location of the liaison functions with non-governmental organizations, and recommendation 29;

17. Invites the Secretary-General to implement recommendation 37 in accordance with the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-eighth session as contained in paragraphs 82 to 88 of its report 2/ and the comments and observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in paragraphs 40 to 60 of its report; 8/

18. Requests the Secretary-General and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of resolution 41/213 in accordance with recommendation 71, taking into account the views expressed in the Fifth Committee;

19. Further requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session an analytical report assessing the effect of the implementation of resolution 41/213 on the Organization and its activities as a whole, and how it has enhanced the efficiency of its administrative and financial functioning.

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7/ A/C.5/43/1/Rev.1/Add.1.

8/ A/43/651.