

**General Assembly****Distr.  
GENERAL****A/45/879  
18 December 1990  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC****Forty-fifth session  
Agenda item 124****PATTERN OF CONFERENCES****Report of the Fifth Committee****Rapporteur: Mr. Shamel NASSER (Egypt)****I. INTRODUCTION**

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1990, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled "Pattern of conferences" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.
2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 4th, 7th, 11th, 12th, 14th and 46th meetings, held on 8, 12, 17 and 23 October and 14 December 1990. Statements and observations made in the course of the discussion of the item and replies to queries raised are reflected in the relevant summary records of the Committee (A/C.5/45/SR.4, 7, 11, 12, 14 and 46).
3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Committee on Conferences, 1/ and the report of the Secretary-General on the printing requirements of the United Nations (A/C.5/45/8). It also had before it the letters dated 30 August, 5 September, 18 October and 2 November 1990 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to the President of the General Assembly (A/45/475 and Add.1-3)

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/45/32 and Add.1 and Add.1/C rr.1).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

4. At its 14th meeting, on 23 October, the Fifth Committee decided, without objection, to recommend that the General Assembly approve the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in paragraph 13 of his report on the printing requirements of the United Nations (see para. 8).
5. At the 46th meeting, on 14 December, following informal consultations, the Rapporteur of the Fifth Committee, Mr. Shame] Nasser (Egypt), introduced a draft resolution, entitled "Pattern of conferences" (A/C.5/45/L.8).
6. At the same meeting, the Fifth Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/45/L.8 without a vote (see para. 7).

## III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

7. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

### Pattern of conferences

A

### Report of the Committee on Conferences

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences, 2/

Noting the various conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Conferences as included in its report,

Recalling its resolution 44/196 A of 21 December 1989,

1. Approves the revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 1991 as submitted by the Committee on Conferences;
2. Requests the Committee on Conferences to review, within its mandate, the existing procedures with regard to inter-sessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and meetings and report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

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2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 32 and corrigendum and addendum (A/45/32 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

3. Authorizes the Committee on Conferences to make adjustments in the calendar of conferences and meetings for 1991 that may become necessary as a result of action and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

4. Calls upon the Committee on Conferences to continue to explore new ways to improve its effectiveness in carrying out its mandate as approved by the General Assembly;

5. Notes the efforts made by a number of United Nations organs to improve the utilization of conference-servicing resources;

6. Invites United Nations bodies, in making requests for conference services in accordance with their respective mandates, to ensure that the conference services requested are sufficient to enable them to carry out their tasks fully and match, to the extent possible, their actual requirements;

7. Urges all United Nations organs and bodies to intensify their efforts to improve their utilization of requested conference-servicing resources;

8. Calls upon the Committee on Conferences to consider, within its mandate, further measures to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the use of conference-servicing resources, bearing in mind the relevant recommendations in the report of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, <sup>3/</sup> as approved by resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session;

9. Requests the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General to maintain their contacts with all United Nations organs in order to ensure the most efficient and effective use of conference services allocated to them;

10. Requests the Chairmen of United Nations organs to bring the concerns about the utilization of conference-servicing resources to the attention of the organs concerned;

11. Requests the Committee on Conferences in implementing the new methodology to consider additional elements proposed in the discussions in the Fifth Committee and to report thereon to the General Assembly;

12. Also requests the Committee on Conferences to remain seized of the matter of the improved utilization of conference-servicing resources on the basis of further reports from the Secretary-General;

13. Welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General in the area of system-wide co-ordination of conference services and invites him in this regard to use more extensively the co-ordinating potential of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions;

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<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

14. Also welcomes the revised work-load standards for conference-servicing staff, which, as noted in decision 45/\_\_\_, reflect a further step towards enhanced productivity of conference-servicing staff;

15. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of continuing investments in technologies, to continue to explore ways to achieve optimum use of all resources in the area of conference servicing.

B

Control and limitation of documentation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/196 B of 21 December 1989,

Recalling also its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986,

Taking into account the continuing financial crisis and the need to improve efficiency and effectiveness,

1. Requests the Committee on Conferences to continue to review the provision of summary records on a regular basis and to report thereon to the General Assembly as appropriate;

2. Decides that, pending a further decision of the General Assembly on the recommendations of the Committee on Conferences, no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly shall be entitled to summary records, with the exception of the following:

- (a) Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean;
- (b) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;
- (c) International Law Commission;
- (d) Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;
- (e) Special Committee against Apartheid;
- (f) United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

3. Decides that summary records should continue to be provided to regular and special sessions of the following governing bodies of the United Nations organs and programmes: the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund; the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; and the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme;

4. Renews its appeal to Member States to exercise restraint in their requests for the circulation of communications as United Nations documents and to keep their submissions as brief as possible;

5. Also renews its appeal to Member States and other organizations of the United Nations system to respond in a timely manner to requests for information for inclusion in documents;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to take all appropriate measures to ensure that pre-session documents for meetings are distributed not less than six weeks before the meetings, simultaneously in all official languages of the organs of the United Nations, in accordance with resolutions 33/56 of 14 December 1978 and 36/117 B of 10 December 1981, and to circulate eight weeks before the opening of a meeting of an intergovernmental body, with the annotated agenda of the meeting, a report on the state of preparedness of all the documents for the session, in all languages, at that time;

7. Requests the secretariats of subsidiary organs to bring the recommendations of the General Assembly on the desirable thirty-two-page limit to the attention of the subsidiary organs at the start of substantive sessions;

8. Requests that intergovernmental organs exercise restraint in their authorization of recurrent publications;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to maximize the use of internal printing facilities, revising the format of United Nations documents for which external printing is now required, as appropriate;

10. Requests the Committee on Conferences to keep the matter under review and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

#### Printing requirements of the United Nations

The General Assembly recommends that the current policies and practices of the United Nations be continued so that maximum use is made of internal printing capacities established to meet peak requirements for the production of parliamentary documentation at major conference centres, including the regional commissions, and that use of external printing services is carefully controlled to ensure that such services are procured on the most economic and efficient basis.

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