



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/8437
28 September 1971

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twenty-sixth session
Agenda item 83

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Report of the Secretary-General

1. At its twenty-fifth session, the General Assembly decided, by its resolution 2732 (XXV) of 16 December 1970, to defer to the twenty-sixth session its consideration of the item entitled "Publications and documentation of the United Nations".
2. For its consideration of this item at the current session, the following documentation is pertinent:
 - (a) The report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth session (A/8126 and Corr. 1 and 2), submitted pursuant to paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 2538 (XXIV) of 11 December 1969, and the observations thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/8212);
 - (b) The report of the Joint Inspection Unit on United Nations documentation and on the organization of the proceedings of the General Assembly and its main bodies (A/8319), submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 2693 (XXV) of 11 December 1970 on the subject of "Pattern of conferences", together with the relevant observations thereon to be transmitted by the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
 - (c) The report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the programme of recurrent publications of the United Nations (A/8362) submitted pursuant to paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2732 (XXV), together with the relevant observations thereon to be transmitted by the Secretary-General and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

Further, the General Assembly has decided that the section of the report of the Special Committee on the Rationalization of the Procedures and Organization of the General Assembly dealing with documentation (A/8426, section IX) should be allocated to the Fifth Committee. Lastly, reference is made to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 2538 (XXIV) in the terms of which the Secretary-General was requested to submit a list of resolutions calling for periodic reports and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was invited to submit any recommendations it might wish to offer for shortening, discontinuing or issuing less frequently such reports. The list is being provided to the Advisory Committee.

3. Under paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 2732 (XXV), the Secretary-General was requested "to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session any additional information relating to the implementation of resolution 2538 (XXIV) which he deems appropriate". The following additional information is provided with reference to three of the operative paragraphs of resolution 2538 (XXIV):

(a) Operative paragraph 3: The Economic and Social Council has continued its consideration of measures to improve the organization of its work, some aspects of which relate to the documentation for the Council. Its decisions at its fifty-first session regarding documentation are contained in part III of its resolution 1623 (LI) of 30 July 1971 and in its resolution 1624 (LI) of 30 July 1971.

(b) Operative paragraph 4: By its resolution 1621 B (LI) of 30 July 1971 the Economic and Social Council established a standing committee of the Council ... "to provide policy guidance and make recommendations on matters relating to the application of science and technology to development ..." and by its resolution 1621 C (LI) of 30 July 1971, the Council established "... a committee of the Council on review and appraisal ..." in relation to the Second United Nations Development Decade. Neither of these resolutions authorized the provision of summary records for these two new bodies, nor did the relevant statements of financial implications reflect assumptions that such records would be provided. In the light of the provisions of paragraph 4 of resolution 2538 (XXIV), the Secretary-General will bring this matter to the attention of the Council at a subsequent session.

(c) Operative paragraph 10 (b): The General Assembly, by its resolution 2747 (XXV) of 17 December 1971, authorized the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations "to maintain and circulate summary records of its proceedings".
