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Forty-sixth session
Agenda item 112

JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Mahmoud BARIMANI (Islamic Republic of Iran)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-sixth session the item entitled "Joint Inspection Unit" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee, on the understanding that the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit dealing with subject-matters assigned to other Main Committees would be referred also to those Committees.
2. For its consideration of the item, the Fifth Committee had before it the report of the Joint Inspection Unit, 1/ a note by the Secretary-General transmitting the work programme of the Unit for 1991 and the nucleus of its work programme for 1992-1993 (A/46/89) and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit (A/46/219).
3. The Committee considered the item at its 10th, 12th, 13th, 18th, 24th, 32nd and 45th meetings, on 17, 21, 23 and 31 October, 6 and 12 November and 5 December 1991. Comments and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/46/SR.10, 12, 13, 18, 24, 32 and 45).

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/46/34).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT DECISION A/C.5/46/L.4

4. At the 45th meeting, on 5 December 1991, following informal consultations, the representative of Hungary introduced a draft decision (A/C.5/46/L.4).
5. At the same meeting, the Fifth Committee adopted draft decision A/C.5/46/L.4, without objection (see para. 6).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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

Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

- (a) Acknowledges receipt of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit covering the period 1 July 1990 to 30 June 1991; 1/
- (b) Takes note of the work programme of the Unit as contained in the note by the Secretary-General; 2/
- (c) Recalls its decision 45/450 of 21 December 1990, in which it welcomed the intention of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to increase its efforts to report on specific matters of system-wide concern, such as conference services, procurement and agency support costs, and in this connection encourages the Joint Inspection Unit to continue its efforts to comply with paragraph 2 (a) of General Assembly resolution 45/237 of 21 December 1990;
- (d) Recalls also General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, as well as articles 2 and 3 of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, and in this regard welcomes the fact that the consultation process for selecting candidates as inspectors as stipulated in the statute was adhered to during the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and recommends that the process be strictly followed in the future;
- (e) Is concerned about the reporting on performance and results of United Nations programmes and invites the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to consider anew the 1988 report of the Joint Inspection Unit in this regard and to report thereon to the Assembly;

2/ A/46/89.

(f) Notes with concern late issuance of comments by the executive heads of organizations concerned or the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, and requests the executive heads to observe strictly the time-limits for commenting on Joint Inspection Unit reports as provided for under article 11, paragraphs 4 (d) and (e) of its statute;

(g) Requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions within its mandate and with due respect to the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit to examine the functioning of the Joint Inspection Unit, including the proposals contained in paragraphs 12 to 16 of its 1991 report, and to submit, with a view to enhancing the Unit's productivity and performance, recommendations taking into account the views of the Joint Inspection Unit on this subject, to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session;

(h) Decides to conduct at its forty-seventh session the in-depth discussion of the annual reports of the Joint Inspection Unit, for 1990-1991 and 1991-1992, and to consider at the same session the desirability and possibility of biennializing this item of the agenda in the context of ongoing efforts to improve the work of the Fifth Committee by, inter alia, biennializing items of its agenda.
