



## General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/46/817  
20 December 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session  
Agenda item 105

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

#### 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 "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. For its consideration of this item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on facilities management (A/45/796) and historical background and descriptions of properties occupied by the United Nations at the principal offices (A/45/796/Add.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations (A/46/545);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on administrative, structural and other aspects of the improvement of the efficiency of the Organization (A/46/633);

(d) Follow-up report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Management Advisory Service of the United Nations (A/46/327) and comments of the Secretary-General thereon (A/46/327/Add.1);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on the application of workload analysis techniques at the United Nations (A/C.5/46/CRP.1).

3. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions presented orally his Committee's report on the Secretary-General's report on facilities management (A/45/796 and Add.1).

4. The comments and observations made in the course of discussion of this item are reflected in the summary records of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/46/SR.55 and 57).

## II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

5. At the 55th meeting, on 18 December, the representative of Finland, following informal consultations, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.16 entitled "Rationalization of the work of the Fifth Committee: biennialization of the programme of work".

6. At the same meeting, the Committee decided to defer a decision on this draft resolution until it considered item 114 (Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations).

7. At its 57th meeting, on 20 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/46/L.16, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8).

## III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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

Rationalization of the work of the Fifth Committee:  
biennialization of the programme of work

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the increased workload of the Fifth Committee and the need to ensure that the Committee is able to fulfil its responsibilities,

Recalling the previous established practice of the Fifth Committee to follow the biennial cycle in its programme of work,

1. Adopts the biennial approach of the consideration of agenda items of the Fifth Committee, with the exception of those which are specifically mandated to be considered annually, as required, or on an ad hoc basis;

2. Approves section I of the annex to the present resolution as the basis for the formulation of the biennial programme of work for the Fifth Committee, and decides to keep it under review;

3. Also approves the biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 1992-1993, as contained in section II of the annex;

4. Decides to conform requests for reports of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the Fifth Committee to the biennial programme of work of the Committee, except where the urgency of the subject-matter requires otherwise;

5. Requests the subsidiary bodies reporting to the Fifth Committee to adjust their programme of work to conform to the biennial work programme of the Fifth Committee;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Fifth Committee for consideration and approval each year a proposed biennial programme of work, taking into account relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly of that year;

7. Notes that the success of the progress of work of the Fifth Committee also depends upon the timely submission of the reports by the Secretary-General and the relevant subsidiary bodies.

#### ANNEX

##### I. Programme of work of the Fifth Committee

###### A. Annual consideration

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors.
2. Programme budget of the United Nations.
3. Current financial crisis of the United Nations.
4. Financial emergency of the United Nations.
5. Pattern of conferences. 1/
6. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations.
7. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments.
8. Report of the Economic and Social Council.

---

1/ The calendar of conferences requires consideration each year; other issues under this item are considered biennially.

**B. Biennial consideration in odd years 2/**

1. Proposed programme budget for the next biennium.
2. Joint Inspection Unit; in-depth examination and consideration of annual reports. 3/
3. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations.

**C. Biennial consideration in even years 2/**

1. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
2. Programme planning.
3. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.
4. Personnel questions. 4/
5. United Nations common system. 5/
6. United Nations pension system. 6/

---

2/ References to "odd" or "even" years relate to calendar years.

3/ Joint Inspection Unit reports linked to substantive Fifth Committee agenda items are considered annually.

4/ The United Nations staff list and the statistical report on the composition of the Secretariat would be issued also in odd years for information purposes.

5/ The report of the International Civil Service Commission is issued for information in odd years. No decision would be required on the part of the General Assembly on the issues covered in the report.

6/ The budget of the Pension Fund would be considered in odd years. It should be taken up as a sub-item under the agenda item of the proposed programme budget for the next biennium.

**D. Consideration as required**

1. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations. 7/

**II. Biennial programme of work of the Fifth Committee for 1992-1993**

**A. Programme of work for 1992**

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors.
2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.
3. Programme budget of the United Nations.
4. Programme planning.
5. Current financial crisis of the United Nations.
6. Financial emergency of the United Nations.
7. Joint Inspection Unit.
8. Pattern of conferences.
9. Scale of assessments.
10. Personnel questions.
11. United Nations common system.
12. United Nations pension system.
13. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations.
14. Report of the Economic and Social Council.
15. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments.

---

7/ The General Assembly should consider this item twice in three years.

B. Programme of work for 1993 8/

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors.
2. Programme budget of the United Nations for 1992-1993.
3. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.
4. Current financial crisis of the United Nations.
5. Financial emergency of the United Nations.
6. Joint Inspection Unit.
7. Pattern of conferences.
8. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations.
9. Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping operations.
10. Administrative and budgetary questions of the United Nations peace-keeping operations.
11. Report of the Economic and Social Council.
12. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments.

\* \* \*

9. The Fifth Committee also recommends that the General Assembly:

(a) Take note, with appreciation, of the report of the Secretary-General on facilities management 9/ and the comments and observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon, and urge the Secretary-General to continue with the formulation of an integrated and coordinated approach to facilities management and to report on specific aspects of this matter as appropriate;

---

8/ The programme of work for 1993 will be updated in 1992, taking into account relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session.

9/ A/45/796 and Add.1.

(b) Take note of the report of the Secretary-General on administrative, structural and other aspects of the improvement of the efficiency of the Organization, 10/ and keep the matter under review;

(c) Defer consideration of the following documents to a later stage at its forty-sixth session:

(i) Report of the Secretary-General on extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations; 11/

(ii) Note by the Secretariat on the application of workload analysis techniques at the United Nations; 12/

(d) Defer consideration of the follow-up report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the Management Advisory Service of the United Nations 13/ and the comments of the Secretary-General thereon 14/ to its forty-seventh session.

-----

---

10/ A/46/633.

11/ A/46/545.

12/ A/C.5/46/CRP.1.

13/ A/46/327.

14/ A/46/327/Add.1.