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PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE
PERIOD 1992-1997*

MAJOR PROGRAMME X.   ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Programme 43.   General services

1.   The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its
revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme
Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of
Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules/1(1987)).

2.   Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be
revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes
and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to
incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions
adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the
adoption of the plan.

3.   The revisions proposed below modify the relevant parts of the narrative
of programme 43, General services, of the medium-term plan for the period
1992-1997, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/253
of 21 December 1990 and issued in document A/45/6/Rev.1. The revisions do not
reflect a fundamental change in mandate, orientation and general strategy of
this programme. Rather, at the level of the subprogramme, revisions have been
made to clarify and update existing text in connection with certain
technological innovations projects.

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     *   After adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session,
the complete revised medium-term plan will be issued in final printed form as
Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement
No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1).

4.   The following text modifies paragraphs 43.24, 43.26 and 43.27 of
A/45/6/Rev.1.

A.   <u>Major programme</u>

5.   Following the restructuring of the Secretariat, it is proposed to merge
major programme IX, Conference services, and major programme X, Administrative
services, into a new major programme IX, Common support services.

B.   <u>Subprogrammes</u>

SUBPROGRAMME 2.   ELECTRONIC SUPPORT SERVICES

<u>Paragraph 43.24</u>   <u>Replace</u> the penultimate sentence with "In order to ensure
compatibility of systems, open architecture for hardware
and software will become the standard and, wherever
feasible, system-wide standards will be set for such
infrastructure technology as microcomputer and local area
network operating systems."

<u>Paragraph 43.26</u>   <u>Replace</u> paragraph 43.26 (a) and 43.26 (b) with the
following:

   "(a)   The current programme introducing
microcomputers capable of performing a full range of
functions will continue where the technology is shown to
be cost-effective;

   "(b)   Connectivity among devices will be enhanced,
linking work groups in local area networks with larger
processors and with other networks into wide area networks
to enable the exchange of full text of documents,
electronic messages and images, as well as facilitating
access to databases, spreadsheets and other common
computer-based information;

   "(c)   Mainframe computers will be upgraded or
down-sized as appropriate;

   "(d)   Disaster recovery programmes will be fully
implemented;

   "(e)   Assistance will be given to substantive offices
to facilitate access to databases by both United Nations
offices and Member States by making the interfaces to such
databases more user-friendly; by procuring newer,
relational database technology and encouraging migration
to these packages; and by organizing continuing outreach
efforts to assist the user community;

"(f) Upgrading telecommunications capabilities to provide world-wide electronic communications services and network facilities at Headquarters, the major duty stations, peace-keeping operations and the specialized agencies;

"(g) Enhancing the voice communications infrastructure to replace dysfunctional equipment and to accommodate data transmission."

Paragraph 43.27   Replace paragraph 43.27 with the following:

"43.27 The major activities of the applications analysts and programmers will centre on providing consultative expertise, rather than on systems maintenance, with maintenance transferred to user departments. Modern development tools and techniques, such as computer-aided software engineering technology and prototyping, will be introduced."