

Distr.: Limited 27 August 1998

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination

United Nations

Thirty-eighth session 17–28 August (part II)

Draft report

Addendum

Rapporteur: Mr. Thomas Schlesinger (Austria)

Programme questions (item 4 (c))

Proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation

1. At its 20th meeting, on 17 June 1998, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (A/53/133).

Discussion

2. It was noted that the Regulations and Rules needed to be updated so as to reflect the new format of the medium-term plan, current practices and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly adopted since the last amendments approved by the Assembly in its resolution 42/215 of 21 December 1987.

Conclusions and recommendations

- 3. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the revisions proposed by the Secretary-General, subject to the following modifications:
- (a) Regulation 3.1
 In paragraph 2 (b),
- (i) Delete major

- (ii) Retain current paragraph 2 (d).
- (b) Regulation 4.2
- (i) At the end of the first sentence, add and subprogrammes.
- (ii) In the third sentence, insert clearly before reflect.
- (iii) Delete the last sentence.
- (c) Regulation 4.6
- (i) In the second sentence, after congruence add, to the extent possible,
- (ii) In the last sentence, replace expected results to be achieved with accomplishments.
- (d) Revise regulation 4.7 to read:

The plan shall include an introduction which will constitute a key integral element in the planning process. The introduction shall be derived from legislative mandates set by intergovernmental organs, shall also identify future challenges, and shall:

- (a) Highlight in a coordinated manner the policy orientation of the United Nations;
- (b) Indicate the medium-term plan objectives and strategy and trends deduced from mandates which reflect priorities set by intergovernmental organs, as well as future challenges;
 - (c) Contain the Secretary-General's proposals on priorities.
- (e) Regulation 4.10

Retain current regulation.

(f) Regulation 4.13

Retain current regulation.

(g) Regulation 4.16

Replace current regulation with the following:

Specialized intergovernmental bodies and expert bodies, when reviewing the relevant programmes of the medium-term plan within their sphere of competence, shall refrain from establishing priorities that are not consistent with the overall priorities established in the medium-term plan.

- (h) Place Regulations 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.9, 4.12, 4.13 and 4.14 before 4.3.
- (i) Regulation 5.2

Add

Programme proposals that are not derived from the objectives of the plan shall be submitted only as a result of legislation passed subsequent to the adoption of the plan or its last revision.

(j) Regulation 5.4

In the second sentence, after outputs insert, objectives and expected accomplishments during the biennium

(k) Revise Regulation 5.6 to read:

Within the proposed programme budget, the Secretary-General shall submit to the General Assembly, with justification, a list of outputs included in the previous budgetary period which, in the judgement of the Secretary-General, can be discontinued and which, as a consequence, have not been included in the proposed programme budget.

(l) Regulation 6.1

In the first sentence, after monitor insert accomplishments through

(m) Regulation 7.2

Retain current regulation.

(n) Regulation 7.4

Retain current regulation.

4. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary action, upon approval by the General Assembly of the revisions to the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, to revise and promulgate the relevant Rules.

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