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FIFTH COMMITTEE
34th meeting
held on
Friday, 6 November 1981
at 10.30 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 34th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. ABDALLA (Sudan)

Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative
and Budgetary Questions: Mr. MSELLE

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The meeting was called to order at 10.45 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 101: PROGRAMME PLANNING (continued) (A/36/38; A/C.5/36/1)

AGENDA ITEM 104: REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT (continued) (A/36/171 and Add.1, A/36/181, 182 and 479)

1. Ms. SCHERER (Brazil) said that establishing priorities in programme planning meant making a value judgement on the activities in question. The United Nations had acquired valuable experience in evolving methods of programme planning, but discipline and flexibility would be required if an effective system of programme planning was to be devised. Granting high priority might or might not imply allocating more resources. The entire spectrum of United Nations activities should be carefully regulated, to identify obsolete, inefficient and marginal activities. The lack of progress to date was cause for concern.
2. It would be premature to merge CPC and ACABQ, although co-ordination between those bodies could be improved. It might be appropriate to amend the terms of reference of CPC, and to extend the length of its sessions. Submission of the medium-term plan to all the Main Committees of the General Assembly was not advisable. It would increase the Assembly's work, lead to the setting of uneven priorities and weaken the role of the Fifth Committee and its scope for programming and budgeting.
3. The criteria for establishing priorities deserved further consideration. Priorities should be established at an over-all level, as well as in more detail. Special sessions of the General Assembly or of the Economic and Social Council to establish criteria for determining priorities were not necessary; that could be done by CPC and the Fifth Committee. The criteria already proposed, such as the importance of a programme's objective, were acceptable, although further study of the problem of conflicting criteria was required.
4. It was not advisable to establish a new Secretariat unit to monitor programme delivery. The adoption by the General Assembly of special rules and regulations on programme planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation would be welcome. Clear provisions should be adopted to cover the planning of United Nations activities.
5. Mr. HICKEY (Australia) said that the United Nations system had moved from a phase of expansion and diversification to one of reorganization and systematization. That process was due to an increasing awareness of the need for planning and priority setting in effective management, which had been heightened by the world economic situation.
6. While substantial progress had been made in the development of appropriate planning methods, the practical application of that new approach presented difficulties. There was considerable evidence that sections of the Secretariat

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(Mr. Hickey, Australia)

were reluctant to set priorities or to take planning seriously. The purpose of priority-setting was to use resources more effectively. The lack of enthusiasm in that regard could be explained by the bureaucratic penchant for "empire-building", although there were practical barriers which militated against the immediate redeployment of personnel and other resources. Those engaged in planning should keep in mind the need to examine structural impediments to the redeployment of resources. For example, a high-level staff member should not be expected to accept redeployment at a lower level elsewhere in the system in a different field of expertise.

7. Extrabudgetary resource planning presented difficulties, particularly in view of the uncertain nature of revenues. Programme planners would be helped if Member States paid their pledged contributions promptly and predictably. Australia had, for example, agreed to schedule its payments to meet the cash flow requirements of various agencies. His delegation had reservations about applying regular budget planning mechanisms to extrabudgetary activities.

8. The Joint Inspection Unit had made a number of suggestions on how planning within the United Nations could be improved. Some, such as the codification of regulations on planning and programming, were appealing in that they established the importance of planning at all levels, thus dispelling any impression that planning was a rarefied activity reserved for the highest echelons of the Secretariat. The potential of recently improved structures to absorb new planning methods and to set priorities more effectively should not be underestimated, yet his delegation did not believe that solutions were to be found by establishing new institutions.

9. All United Nations bodies had to face their respective responsibilities for planning. CPC and the Fifth Committee had a catalytic role to play, as had the planning specialists in the Secretariat; however, to be effective their efforts must be supplemented by the collective will of Member States and staff members to make planning work.

10. His delegation had reservations on the convening of a special session of the Economic and Social Council or of the General Assembly to discuss planning. Recently established structures should be given an opportunity to demonstrate whether they could satisfy the need for co-ordination and programming. The Committee should ensure that such structures operated effectively. It should also assume a greater burden in the over-all setting of priorities, a task which had political, administrative and financial implications. Given current support arrangements, the Fifth Committee could not perform that difficult task effectively. Once new planning methods and structures had been established, it was to be hoped that the Committee would be better able to discharge its responsibilities in that area.

11. Mr. CROM (Netherlands) said that it was essential to plan international co-operation activities in the United Nations system. It had become necessary for the United Nations to use resources more effectively, while guaranteeing

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(Mr. Crom, Netherlands)

adequate programme delivery, so that the task of planning and evaluation was not easy. It required a sincere effort by the Secretariat and Member States. If programmes were to be streamlined, a spirit of collective responsibility would have to prevail.

12. Organizations could not be expected to implement fully their mandates by themselves. The United Nations system should serve more as a catalyst, making greater use of non-governmental organizations and universities in carrying out its mandates. Requests for documentation should be more carefully considered. However useful an individual report might be, the usability of the total flow of documentation should be kept in mind. More documents did not necessarily present a clearer over-all picture.

13. The evaluation systems used in the United Nations were in their infancy. Attempts should be made to eliminate barriers to evaluation, which could be external as well as internal.

14. His delegation supported the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit. Discussion of the medium-term plan by the Main Committees of the General Assembly should be instituted as soon as possible to improve priority-setting. A single intergovernmental committee, replacing ACABQ and CPC, would be welcome. The establishment of such a committee would facilitate the Fifth Committee's tasks since a single body would then monitor the preparation and implementation of the programme budget. Such an integrated approach was crucial to programme planning.

AGENDA ITEM 100: PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983
(continued) (A/36/6, 7 and 38 (chaps. V and VII D))

First reading (continued)

Section 13. Economic Commission for Africa (continued)

15. Mr. BANGURA (Sierra Leone) said that the Committee should recall that Africa was the least developed of all the continents. Its combined gross national product represented only 2.7 per cent of world GNP. It faced major problems of hunger, poverty and disease. Yet Africa had major natural resources, so that the question arose of why Africa was underdeveloped.

16. The Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa contained recommendations for the economic and social development of Africa, based on collective self-reliance. ECA and OAU played a vital role in that Strategy. It had been hoped to induce the entire international community to support the Plan. Yet at a time when African States were appealing for more aid, a zero growth budget had been introduced. That would clearly have a negative effect on programmes. His delegation was strongly opposed to any reductions under section 13 of the budget.

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(Mr. Bangura, Sierra Leone)

17. Moreover the results of the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities were extremely disappointing. The question arose of how ECA, the lead executing agency for Africa, could implement its various mandates, for example, that relating to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. His delegation was also concerned whether resources would be made available under section 13 for operation of the multinational programming and operational centres (MULPOCs). Sierra Leone had full confidence in ECA, which needed additional staff to carry out the tasks entrusted to it more effectively. In particular, his delegation was opposed to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee, contained in paragraph 13.7 of its report, that only 9 of the 12 reclassifications proposed by the Secretary-General be approved.

18. Mr. JOHNSON (Benin) said that section 13 of the budget was important to the economic development of Africa. While his delegation appreciated the work of the Advisory Committee, it could not support the recommendation that only 9 of the reclassifications proposed by the Secretary-General be approved. If it was, ECA would be unable to play an appropriate role in African development. His delegation thus appealed to the Fifth Committee to reject that recommendation in a spirit of equity. The Committee should attach major importance to the problems of development in Africa.

19. Mr. RUGWIZANGOGA (Rwanda) said that the United Nations should provide additional resources to ECA to implement the tasks entrusted to it under the Lagos Plan of Action, which represented an attempt to breathe new life into Africa's economic development. The work of ECA in promoting development in Africa was important and should be expanded, which would only be possible if additional resources were granted. The concept of zero growth should not apply to ECA.

20. His delegation was opposed to the Advisory Committee's recommendation that only 9 out of the 12 reclassifications proposed by the Secretary-General be approved. The multinational programming and operational centres were important and should receive due emphasis.

21. Mr. SHERMAN (Liberia) said that zero growth could not apply to ECA, since it was to the detriment of the least developed countries. The recommendation of ACABQ that only nine reclassifications be approved would lower morale at ECA. His delegation was concerned over the high rate of vacancies at the Commission, and trusted that efforts were being made to determine the underlying causes. ECA was the hope of all Africa, and the Fifth Committee should understand its problems.

22. Mr. YOUNIS (Iraq) said that his delegation was concerned over the problem of vacancies at ECA, the reclassification of posts and the allocation of resources to the Commission. The high vacancy rates in all the regional commissions, including ECA, were disturbing. His delegation feared that no solution to that problem, which had persisted for several years, was in sight. Nor had any real attempt been made to find a solution or even to determine the precise cause.

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(Mr. Younis, Iraq)

If the underlying cause could be found, a solution might be devised. The Fifth Committee clearly had an obligation to assist in remedying the situation. The question of reclassifications was a delicate one. His delegation wished to know whether the Advisory Committee had specific written or oral criteria for accepting or rejecting reclassifications in regional commissions, and if so, what they were.

23. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions) said that the problem of post reclassifications had been discussed in the Fifth Committee for as long as he could remember. In his introduction to the Advisory Committee's report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981, he had said that he would be extremely happy if means could be found to prevent the Advisory Committee and the Fifth Committee from getting involved in the question of reclassifications, but saw no hope of producing criteria or guidelines which would allow either body not to get involved.

24. Essentially, reclassification amounted to the abolition of one post and the establishment of a new one at a higher or lower level. As with the proposal to create any new post, the Advisory Committee was obliged to review the Secretary-General's proposals. Accepting the endorsement of the Classification Section in OPS, as some delegations had suggested, would not suffice because the Classification Section had to be regarded as acting on behalf of the Secretary-General and, accordingly, ACABQ still had to consider the proposed new post on its merits and make a recommendation to the Fifth Committee.

25. A traditional means of securing a higher-grade post when it was believed that reclassification would not be approved had been to request a new post. Although it was never explicitly stated in the proposed programme budget, for 1982-1983 the large number of reclassifications requested in the budget proposals actually amounted to compensation for the small number of new posts proposed under the zero growth budget. There was, however, another means of effectively reclassifying a post, and that was to redeploy a post of the requisite grade to a programme where a reclassification was wanted. That resulted in upgrading a post in the receiving programme, and downgrading one in the programme from which the post had been taken. Although the grading structure of the staffing table did not change, there were, obviously, implications for the programmes involved, but that was not the point at issue. In any event, he suspected that the Secretariat devoted more attention to personnel issues - ensuring that staff were satisfied - than to programme management.

26. The claim that refusing to endorse three of the requested reclassifications for ECA would seriously affect staff morale seemed to him an exaggeration. The large number of vacant posts in ECA gave the Executive Secretary ample opportunity to redeploy posts as he had suggested and, indeed, as the Advisory Committee suggested in paragraph 13.7 of its report. Extensive use had been made of such redeployment in ECLA, ESCAP and ECE; virtually no reclassifications had been requested for those commissions.

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27. He had to disagree with the claim that reclassifications were not tantamount to promotions. Of course they should not be, but the desire to promote a deserving staff member could not be ignored. The Advisory Committee had always recognized, in reaching decisions on requested reclassifications, that that desire was one of the factors that came into play.

28. At the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly, the Advisory Committee had submitted a report (A/35/7/Add.8) on the reclassification of regular-budget posts, based on consultations with representatives of the Secretary-General and the specialized agencies. The guidelines it had set forth in that report had been endorsed without objection by the Fifth Committee, and in resolution 35/217, section VIII, the General Assembly had taken note of the report and endorsed the recommendations made in paragraphs 41 to 44. One of the Committee's recommendations had been that posts should be reclassified only when there had been a significant change in job content. Another had related to the information that should be submitted to the Advisory Committee whenever a reclassification was proposed: it had been his experience that the information provided by the Secretariat was often not presented in a helpful form, and was at times actually confusing. But in each case the Committee went through the information provided and, exercising its judgement, for neither the Advisory Committee nor the Secretariat could claim to be invariably right, decided whether to recommend acceptance of the reclassification proposed.

29. If the Fifth Committee believed that the Advisory Committee was wrong in its recommendations, it was within its powers to adopt a different position. As he had already pointed out, however, paragraph 13.7 of the report of ACABQ would allow the Executive Secretary to attain the same objectives as he was seeking through the proposed reclassifications.

30. Turning to the question of the turnover deduction applied to the estimates, he expressed concern that so many of the statements made on the subject appeared to be based on misunderstandings. In his estimates, the Secretary-General applied a standard turnover reduction of 5 per cent, which no delegation contested. In a number of cases the Advisory Committee had recommended an increase in that deduction, but whatever the rate applied, the apparent reduction in the appropriations requested would neither affect recruitment procedures nor prevent vacancies from being filled.

31. The Egyptian representative had implied that the Advisory Committee was less than evenhanded in its recommendations regarding the turnover deduction. Yet, the additional turnover recommended by ACABQ for ECA was less in percentage terms than that recommended for the other regional economic commissions. While he would understand a decision by the Fifth Committee to overturn the Advisory Committee's recommendation in paragraph 13.7 of its report, he would be at a loss to understand why any delegation should oppose the recommendation to increase the turnover deduction applicable to section 13.

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32. Mr. LAHLOU (Morocco) said that he could not accept any blurring of the distinction between promotions and reclassifications, or the use of vacant posts as a means of providing upgradings. If the General Assembly established posts, it was not so that they could be left vacant for redeployment purposes. A study should be made of the real reasons for posts' remaining vacant; meanwhile, budgetary posts, even when vacant, should be left where the General Assembly had intended them to be.

33. He was very concerned at the level of vacant posts in ECA, which was such a vital commission and had so many difficulties to tackle. The Commission itself was, however, a little to blame: it was not good at explaining its projects and proposals, and that made it more difficult to win acceptance for them. With such great issues at hand, however, the representatives of Governments should not have to discuss the minor matter of posts. As he had already pointed out, the application of zero growth targets in such a case would do nothing for Africa or the world.

34. Mr. KAMBIRIGI (Burundi) said he was not satisfied with the explanations regarding reclassifications given by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee. He had asked what criteria were applied by ACABQ to requests for reclassifications.

35. Mr. MOHAMMED (Nigeria) said that, by the year 1990, subregional organizations were expected to be in operation all over Africa; if the Executive Secretary was not already planning to expand the working capacity of the Commission, no action could be taken until the following biennium, by which stage it would already be halfway through the period to which the Lagos Plan of Action was supposed to apply. He asked, therefore, to what extent provision had been made for expanding the staff of the Commission to deal with the increased work-load, in both the Commission proper and the local centres.

36. Mrs. DORSET (Trinidad and Tobago) said it had become apparent to her delegation that, when the Fifth Committee discussed reclassifications requested by the Secretary-General, it did not have available to it the same volume of information as was provided to the Advisory Committee: in addition to the Secretary-General's proposals, ACABQ had access to the job descriptions for the posts involved, information on the actual duties performed, and the opportunity to hear oral presentations from Secretariat officials. True, the Fifth Committee too could ask for further classification on such requests, but often her delegation was none the wiser for such clarifications. While, then, the Fifth Committee had the authority to act on such proposals, it was less well-equipped to come to a conclusion on the matter than was the Advisory Committee.

37. She was convinced that, given the number of vacant posts available in ECA, it should not be impossible to arrange matters so that staff morale in the Commission would not be adversely affected.

38. Her delegation was strongly in favour of providing the Commission with adequate resources to carry out its tasks, particularly those of special interest to the developing countries. It was not a supporter of the policy of zero

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(Mrs. Dorset, Trinidad and Tobago)

udgetary growth, believing that programmes should not be placed under tight financial constraints. But the Fifth Committee must be astute enough to recognize when a recommendation by the Advisory Committee put the implementation of programmes important to developing countries at risk and when it did not.

1). Mr. ZINIEL (Ghana) said that his delegation had always taken the view that African problems did not concern Africa alone, and it therefore welcomed the views of other delegations, including those of Trinidad and Tobago. He would like to hear the Executive Secretary's reaction to the suggestion that the problem of reclassification might be solved through resort to existing vacant posts.

2). Mr. RUEDAS (Assistant Secretary-General for Financial Services), referring to the multinational programming and operational centres (MULPOCS), said that there are five such centres, located respectively in Gisenyi, Lusaka, Niamey, Tangier and Yaoundé. The one in Tangier was financed from regular budget funds and the other four by UNDP; total UNDP estimated expenditure for the purpose, for the biennium 1980-1981, amounted to \$5.3 million. In April 1981, the Conference of Ministers of the Commission had approved four draft resolutions for submission to the Economic and Social Council. One of them (ECA resolution 427 (XVI)) referred to the implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the regional commissions, and requested the General Assembly to make available to the Economic Commission for Africa the necessary resources to enable it fully to play its role under the authority of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the African region.

1. At the time of approval of that resolution by the Conference of Ministers, the Secretariat had prepared a statement of the relevant financial implications, which had then been estimated at an annual total of \$3.5 million, providing essentially for 83 additional posts (34 Professional and higher-level posts and 49 local-level posts) and for related travel costs. Those figures included 29 posts for the MULPOCS at the Professional and higher level and 24 at the local level. When the annual report of ECA had come before the Economic and Social Council in July 1981, a further statement of financial implications had been prepared, in which it was indicated, with regard to the implications of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202, that the Secretary-General had been requested by General Assembly decision 35/440 to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session. The statement had gone on to say that it would be premature, at that point, for the Secretary-General to take a position on the financial estimates referred to, and that he would await any decision that might be taken in the light of the report to be prepared by him. A report by the Secretary-General (A/36/577) on the implementation of section IV (Regional co-operation) of the annex to resolution 32/197 had since been issued and was before the Second Committee. It covered all the regional commissions and reproduced the relevant resolutions approved by them, including the ECA resolution to which he had referred. He understood that the report was under consideration by the Second Committee, which had, as yet, taken no decision on it.

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(Mr. Ruedas)

42. Replying to the question raised by the representative of the United Republic of Cameroon concerning the 28 posts recommended by the Classification Section for upward reclassification, he said that that recommendation, together with a recommendation for the downward reclassification of eight other posts, had been made by the Classification Section in 1979, when the budget for the 1980-1981 biennium had already been prepared, and the first opportunity the Secretary-General had had to include the proposals in the proposed programme budget was for the biennium 1982-1983. The Secretary-General had felt that, in the light of the rather large number of proposed reclassifications, and the practical difficulties of accommodating them all at once, the proposals should be put forward by stages. That explained why only 12 posts had been put forward for reclassification in the proposed programme budget for 1982-1983.

43. Mr. ADEDIJI (Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa) said that, as could be seen from paragraph 13.10 of the Advisory Committee's report (A/36/7), the number of vacancies in the Economic Commission for Africa under the regular budget was 14, representing a vacancy rate of 9.2 per cent, and an improvement on previous years. The pessimism expressed by the Iraqi representative was therefore unjustified. There were a number of problems, however. In common with other United Nations bodies, ECA had authority to recruit for posts up to the P-4 level; higher-level appointments had to be approved by Headquarters in New York, and that process took time.

44. The General Assembly's decision with respect to equitable geographical representation also posed a problem. It was usually the over-represented countries that were in the best position to provide highly-qualified candidates for the posts, and it was often necessary to go on readvertising a post for some time before a suitable candidate from another country could be found. It had been possible, with the co-operation of the Office of Personnel Services, to improve recruitment somewhat in recent years, and that trend was likely to continue. The recruitment process was under way for most of the 14 vacant posts, but there would be a time-lag before the candidates were appointed.

45. If reclassification was a marginal matter, redeployment might solve the problem, but it was not marginal as far as the Economic Commission for Africa was concerned. Posts in ECA had for years been graded at a lower level than comparable posts in other United Nations institutions. The Commission had hoped that the Secretary-General's efforts to have 12 out of 28 posts reclassified during the current biennium would be approved: at the rate of 12 per biennium, it would take three biennia to correct the anomalies. One of the posts recommended for reclassification was that of Chief Finance Officer, which had for many years been at the P-4 level in ECA, whereas the same post in other regional commissions was at the P-5 level. The issue was one of equity and morale.

46. Referring to the multinational programming and operational centres (MULPOCS), he said that those centres performed both the traditional functions of the Commission at the subregional level and operational activities. UNDP, which

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had hitherto provided all the resources, had indicated that, as from 1 January 1982, it would support only the operational activities. The matter was therefore of extreme urgency.

47. A question had been raised at an earlier meeting concerning problems of decentralization, referred to in the Secretary-General's report (A/36/577) and ECA resolution 427 (XVI). Delegations which had followed the question of decentralization and redeployment in the light of General Assembly resolutions 32/197 and 33/202 would know how slow progress had been in that respect. The General Assembly had decided that the various Commissions should be consulted, and the results of those consultations were reflected in the Secretary-General's report.

48. The representative of the United Republic of Cameroon had raised the question of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade for Africa, and had referred in particular to the decision of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in paragraph 494 of its report (A/36/38). He understood that there was a relevant draft resolution before the Second Committee, which, if approved, would have financial implications that would subsequently come before the Fifth Committee.

49. The same representative had raised the question of section 28J of the programme budget, and specifically of the provision for the translators' training programme for ECA, the deletion of which had been recommended in document A/C.5/36/17. He had been in touch with the Assistant Secretary-General for Personnel Services when the document had first come to his notice. The programme had initially been suggested in 1977. It had been pointed out to ACABQ on its visit to ECA that it had been difficult to retain translators in Addis Ababa, and that the long-term solution appeared to be to train permanent African translators in the two main working languages of the Commission. So far, 11 translators had been trained successfully, and there were 13 vacant posts. The programme review mission had been informed that the Commission's needs would increase and that nothing had as yet been done to meet the needs of the subregional offices, which with the exception of the office at Burundi, all employed two languages and therefore required translators.

50. In reply to a question raised by the United States representative at an earlier meeting, he said that decisions with respect to sales of publications were taken by the Publications Board at Headquarters, and not by the regional Commissions.

51. The United States representative had also inquired about the management of technical assistance activities. It was explained in the programme budget that the 21-per-cent real growth in that area was due to redeployment of a post from the Executive direction and management programme to the Management of technical co-operation activities programme. It was also due to a number of increased activities envisaged for the Technical Assistance Co-ordination and Operations Office in the form of studies and advisory services.

(Mr. Adediji)

52. In reply to a question raised by the representative of Morocco, he said that the Africa-Europe link project had been considered at the most recent conference of Ministers of Transport and Communications in Addis Ababa, and it had been decided to include it when preparing the revised programme for the first phase of the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa.

53. Mr. MSELLE (Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions), replying to the question raised by the representative of Burundi regarding the criteria for reclassification of posts, said that ACABQ studied the information given in the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget, together with information provided by representatives of the Secretary-General, and considered the functions currently being performed and those to be performed under the reclassified posts. It was frequently discovered that there was no significant change in function. In many cases, it was concluded that the reclassification was proposed as a means of rewarding long or meritorious service. In his introduction of the first report (A/36/7), he had indicated that no procedure existed for that purpose except for reclassification of the post in question. There was also pressure from staff for such reclassification.

54. To avoid protracted discussion during budget years, consideration might be given to the advance submission to the Advisory Committee of a separate document on proposed reclassifications, so that the Advisory Committee's recommendations on the subject could be taken into account in the programme budget document.

55. Mr. KAMBIRIGI (Burundi) said that the Chairman of ACABQ had added nothing to his earlier comments. He would contact him personally with a view to obtaining a satisfactory reply.

AGENDA ITEM 108: REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
(A/36/30; A/C.5/36/26)

56. The CHAIRMAN said that he had received a communication from the President of the Federation of International Civil Servants Association (FICSA) expressing the wish to make an introductory statement to the Committee in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 35/213. The matter might require consultation by members of the Committee, and he suggested that a decision should be taken on it at a subsequent meeting.

57. It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 1.20 p.m.