

2. *Further decides* that, with regard to paragraph 501 (d) of the report of the Committee, programme element 9.1 (Environmental law) of subprogramme 9 (Environmental management including environmental law) should be retained, with the exception of two meetings on international rivers, which should be deleted;

XIX

USE OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS IN THE UNITED NATIONS

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the use of experts and consultants in the United Nations⁸² and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁸³

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on this subject to the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session;

XX

FORMULATION, PRESENTATION, REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PROGRAMME BUDGETS

Decides, in the event of a resumption of its thirty-sixth session in 1982, to authorize the Fifth Committee to meet in order to continue its consideration of the question of the formulation, presentation, review and approval of programme budgets.

*105th plenary meeting
18 December 1981*

36/236. Vienna International Centre

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the Vienna International Centre⁸⁴ as well as of the agreements referred to therein;

2. *Endorses* the observations and understandings put forward by the Advisory Committee with respect to those agreements;

3. *Takes into account* the assurances given by the Secretary-General on the various concerns expressed by the Advisory Committee in its report.

*105th plenary meeting
18 December 1981*

36/237. Establishment of an Information Systems Unit in the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs

The General Assembly,

Recalling section XIII of its resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980, by which it decided that the staffing complement of the Development Information System of the Information Systems Unit would be funded temporarily by the regular budget for 1981 and that a report on the evaluation of the System should be submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session,

Taking note of the report of the Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems containing an evaluation of the Development Information System of the Information Systems Unit,⁸⁵ as well as the report of the Secretary-General⁸⁶ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁸⁷ which provide information on the progress of the Unit since last year, and particularly the section which outlines the role that the Unit can play in the maintenance of compatibility and the exchange of development information among the regional commissions,

Mindful of the limited size of both the data base and user community of the Development Information System and of the need to improve its coverage and services,

Considering that the Development Information System, in providing access to the unpublished reports and studies produced by or for the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development and other parts of the Secretariat, will be providing a needed and valuable service to the Governments and Member States and other users of the System,

Further considering that the loss of the Development Information System could have a negative effect on international co-operation for development,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the Information Systems Unit by absorbing the cost of the Unit from the resources proposed for the 1982-1983 programme budget through savings, economies and redeployment;

2. *Requests* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to consider, at its twenty-second session, the programme implications of the proposals contained in the report Information Systems Unit which would enable it to serve as a focal point for the expansion, merging and distribution of the development-related data bases of the regional commissions and for the maintenance of the macrothesaurus;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to undertake measures to improve the Development Information System in terms of its coverage and services;

4. *Requests* the Inter-Organization Board to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session, through the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, on the performance and utility of the Information Systems Unit.

*105th plenary meeting
18 December 1981*

36/238. Report of the Committee of Governmental Experts to Evaluate the Present Structure of the Secretariat in the Administrative, Finance and Personnel Areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/211 of 17 December 1980, by which it established the Committee of Governmental Experts to Evaluate the Present Structure of the Secretariat in the Administrative, Finance and Personnel Areas,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Committee of Governmental Experts to Evaluate the Present Structure of the Secretariat in the Administrative, Finance and Personnel Areas;⁸⁸

⁸² A/C.5/36/46.

⁸³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/36/7/Add.1-21)*, document A/36/7/Add.15.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, document A/36/7/Add.1.

⁸⁵ A/C.5/36/7.

⁸⁶ A/C.5/36/6.

⁸⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/36/7/Add.1-21)*, document A/36/7/Add.7.

⁸⁸ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 44 (A/36/44 and Corr.1).