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Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Hicham **Oussihamou** (Morocco)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 136 are set out in the report of the Committee contained in document [A/73/686](#).

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 27th to 32nd meetings on 11, 12, 15 and 22 March and 1 and 5 April 2019. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records.¹

3. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Organizational resilience management system

Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the organizational resilience management system ([A/73/666](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/775](#));

After-service health insurance

Report of the Secretary-General on managing after-service health insurance ([A/73/662](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/792](#));

¹ [A/C.5/73/SR.27](#), [A/C.5/73/SR.28](#), [A/C.5/73/SR.29](#), [A/C.5/73/SR.30](#), [A/C.5/73/SR.31](#) and [A/C.5/73/SR.32](#).



Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Report of the Secretary-General on thematic cluster II: Panel of Experts on Somalia ([A/73/352/Add.7](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/498/Add.7](#));

Report of the Secretary-General on thematic cluster III: United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement ([A/73/352/Add.8](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/498/Add.8](#));

Revised estimates: United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic

Report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under sections 27, Humanitarian assistance, and 36, Staff assessment: United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic ([A/73/729](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/799](#));

Information and communications technology

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of implementation of the information and communications technology strategy for the United Nations ([A/73/384](#));

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the second annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the information and communications technology strategy ([A/73/160](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/759](#));

Standards of accommodation for air travel

Report of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel ([A/73/705](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/779](#));

Global service delivery model

Report of the Secretary-General on the global service delivery model for the United Nations Secretariat ([A/73/706](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/73/791](#));

Review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund ([A/70/395](#));

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions ([A/70/7/Add.7](#)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution [A/C.5/73/L.25](#)

4. At its 32nd meeting, on 5 April, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Global service delivery model for the United Nations Secretariat” ([A/C.5/73/L.25](#)), submitted by Uganda.

5. At the same meeting, the representative of Uganda withdrew draft resolution [A/C.5/73/L.25](#).

B. Draft resolution [A/C.5/73/L.27](#)

6. At its 32nd meeting, on 5 April, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019” ([A/C.5/73/L.27](#)), submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representatives of Cuba, Estonia (Vice-Chair of the Committee), Norway and Switzerland.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.5/73/L.27](#) without a vote (see para. 9).

8. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement after the adoption of the draft resolution.

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

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

Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

The General Assembly,

I Organizational resilience management system

Recalling section II of its resolution [64/260](#) of 29 March 2010, section I of its resolution [66/247](#) of 24 December 2011, sections II and IV of its resolution [67/254 A](#) of 12 April 2013, section III of its resolution [68/247 B](#) of 9 April 2014 and section II of its resolution [70/248 B](#) of 1 April 2016,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the organizational resilience management system¹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,²

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;²
3. *Welcomes* the progress achieved thus far in the implementation of the organizational resilience management system, and requests the Secretary-General to integrate the organizational resilience management system within the overall risk management framework of the Organization;
4. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to clarify further the structure, roles and responsibilities between the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance and the Department of Operational Support in order to ensure a full and effective response to critical situations as they arise in the context of his next report;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to encourage all entities in the United Nations system to participate in the inter-agency community of practice;
6. *Emphasizes* the importance of a holistic and coordinated approach to emergency management across the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to strengthen the coordination and planning functions across the system, including the resident coordinator system, noting the importance of involving the host country to ensure adequate coordination and planning;
7. *Reiterates* paragraph 5 of section II of its resolution [70/248 B](#), underlining the importance of the full implementation of the organizational resilience management system at offices away from Headquarters, regional commissions, field missions of the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat and the participating specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system;

¹ [A/73/666](#).

² [A/73/775](#).

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to improve the crisis management capabilities of special political missions;

9. *Recalls* paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide an update regarding the actual cost of the organizational resilience management system initiative in his next report;

10. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General with respect to the consideration of means of risk mitigation, including the requests for proposals for brokerage services, and encourages him to continue efforts to negotiate competitive insurance coverage, with a view to securing adequate coverage at a reasonable cost for all United Nations installations and premises exposed to natural hazards and emergencies, and to report thereon in his next progress report;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, no later than at the first part of its resumed seventy-sixth session, a progress report on the implementation of the organizational resilience management system;

II

Managing after-service health insurance

Recalling its resolution [58/249 A](#) of 23 December 2003, section III of its resolution [60/255](#) of 8 May 2006, its resolution [61/264](#) of 4 April 2007, its resolution [64/241](#) and section XI of its resolution [64/245](#) of 24 December 2009, section IV of its resolution [65/259](#) of 24 December 2010, its resolution [68/244](#) of 27 December 2013, its resolution [69/113](#) of 10 December 2014, section III of its resolution [70/248 B](#) of 1 April 2016 and section IV of its resolution [71/272 B](#) of 6 April 2017,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on managing after-service health insurance³ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁴

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General;³
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁴ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Acknowledges with concern* the importance of after-service health insurance liabilities, and welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General to propose measures to address the issue, while highlighting the potential important impact of the proposals on future budgets and the future entitlements of concerned staff;
4. *Notes* that the proposed payroll charge would entail an assessment on Member States;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further explore options for the improvement of efficiency and the containment of costs, including liabilities associated with current and future staff, with a view to reducing the Organization's expenditure on health insurance plans and its after-service health insurance obligations, and to report thereon at its seventy-fifth session;
6. *Notes with appreciation* the proposal for an entitlement accrual mechanism;

³ [A/73/662](#).

⁴ [A/73/792](#).

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly, at its seventy-fifth session, comprehensive proposals to be applied after 1 January 2022, incorporating the following elements:

(a) Further details about the proposed change to the funding model for future recruits, including mid-term and long-term budgetary projections for the regular and peacekeeping budgets;

(b) A mechanism that would associate the after-service health insurance premiums paid by the agency and staff member's period of service within the system and information with respect to how such an entitlement accrual mechanism would be applied to staff members;

(c) Projections regarding the proportion of staff in peacekeeping operations who will be entitled to after-service health insurance benefits;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to maintain the pay-as-you-go funding of the United Nations after-service health insurance obligations, at the present time;

III

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council concerning the Panel of Experts on Somalia

Recalling section XXII of its resolution [72/262 A](#) of 24 December 2017, section II of its resolution [72/262 C](#) of 5 July 2018, section XIV of its resolution [73/279](#) and its resolution [73/280 A](#) of 22 December 2018 and its decision 72/558 of 5 July 2018,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council concerning the Panel of Experts on Somalia⁵ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁶

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁵
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁶
3. *Approves* resources in the amount of 1,914,300 United States dollars (net of staff assessment) for the Panel of Experts on Somalia for the period from 14 November 2018 to 31 December 2019;
4. *Decides* to appropriate, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution [41/213](#) of 19 December 1986, an additional amount of 1,914,300 dollars (net of staff assessment) under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;
5. *Also decides* to appropriate an amount of 62,700 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

⁵ [A/73/352/Add.7](#).

⁶ [A/73/498/Add.7](#).

IV**Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council concerning the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement**

Recalling section XXII of its resolution [72/262 A](#) of 24 December 2017, section II of its resolution [72/262 C](#) of 5 July 2018 and section XIV of its resolution [73/279](#) and its resolution [73/280 A](#) of 22 December 2018,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council concerning the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement⁷ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁸

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁷
2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁸ subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
3. *Recalls* paragraphs 8 and 9 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to present a full budget proposal to the General Assembly for its consideration in the context of his next report;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify his ongoing efforts to ensure the expeditious filling of vacant positions, including the greater use of national staff, in his next budget submission;
5. *Stresses* the need to ensure close coordination between the Government of Yemen and the United Nations on all aspects of the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement;
6. *Also stresses* that the decisions contained in the present resolution shall not preclude future amendments to structure, staffing and resources when the Secretary-General formally introduces the budget of the Mission;
7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the Mission in an amount not to exceed 17,640,800 dollars (net) for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2019;

V**Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under sections 27, Humanitarian assistance, and 36, Staff assessment: United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic**

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 under sections 27, Humanitarian assistance, and 36, Staff assessment, concerning the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic⁹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,¹⁰

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁹

⁷ [A/73/352/Add.8](#).

⁸ [A/73/498/Add.8](#).

⁹ [A/73/729](#).

¹⁰ [A/73/799](#).

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;¹⁰

3. *Approves* the resources for the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic for the period from January to December 2019 in the amount of 2,926,200 dollars net (3,188,400 dollars gross);

4. *Appropriates* an additional amount of 2,700,300 dollars (net of staff assessment) under section 27, Humanitarian assistance, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

5. *Also appropriates* an additional amount of 259,200 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019.
