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Agenda item 73

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1974-1975

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the use of experts and  
consultants in the United Nations

Algeria, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, the Dominican Republic,  
Ecuador, the Federal Republic of Germany, Upper Volta: draft  
paragraph for inclusion in the report of the Fifth Committee

The Fifth Committee considered the reports on the use of experts and consultants in the United Nations submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit (A/9112), the Secretary-General (A/9112/Add.1 and A/C.5/1611) and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/9112/Add.2). The Fifth Committee concurred with the recommendations of the JIU, as modified by the related comments and observations of the ACABQ, and decided to request the Secretary-General to take them fully into account in the preparation and the implementation of the comprehensive system of policies, procedures and practices he undertook to issue in the near future under the form of codified administrative instructions applicable to all departments and offices of the Secretariat.

In this connexion, the Fifth Committee stressed that:

- (a) The Secretary-General should ensure that expenditure for consultancy services for the biennium 1974-1975 be maintained within the approved appropriation, and that no supplementary estimates be presented;
- (b) The estimates under this heading in future biennial budgets should be prepared with determined restraint, with a view to achieving substantial reductions in the funds requested for this field of activities;
- (c) Priority in the use of consultant services should be given to programmes more directly related to economic and social development.

Finally, the Fifth Committee took note of the stated intention of the Secretary-General to present, at the thirtieth General Assembly, a follow-up report on the implementation of the new system.