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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1976-1977

Standards of accommodation for official travel  
of United Nations staff by air

Report of the Secretary-General

1. During its twenty-eighth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 3198 (XXVIII), the operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

"1. Decides that payment by the United Nations of travel expenses of staff members shall be limited to the cost of economy class accommodation by air or its equivalent by recognized public transportation via the shortest and most direct route, except for the Secretary-General, Under-Secretaries-General and Assistant Secretaries-General, provided that, when special circumstances warrant, the Secretary-General may, at his discretion, allow first class travel;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution."

2. The first report on the implementation of resolution 3198 (XVIII) was presented to the Fifth Committee during the twenty-ninth session of the General Assembly. 1/ The present report deals with the period 1 July 1974 to 30 June 1975. During this period first-class travel was approved for one staff member below the Assistant Secretary-General level in order to enable him to accompany the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples when that Committee made an official visit to Portugal.

3. Three other officials whose duties and responsibilities were recognized as equivalent to those of Assistant Secretary-General through payment of a special post allowance or special duties allowances were also authorized to travel first-class. Otherwise, the decision of the General Assembly to limit the cost of official travel expenses to economy class accommodation by air in the case of all officials below the grade of Assistant Secretary-General was fully implemented.

1/ A/C.5/1593.