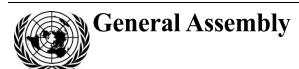
United Nations A/RES/79/258



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Seventy-ninth session
Agenda item 139
Proposed programme budget for 2025

# Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 24 December 2024

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/79/652, para. 58)]

# 79/258. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for 2025

The General Assembly,

### I Enterprise resource planning project, Umoja

Recalling section II of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, section II of its resolution 63/262 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, section II.A of its resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010, its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011, section III of its resolution 66/263 of 21 June 2012, section III of its resolution 67/246 of 24 December 2012, its resolution 68/246 of 27 December 2013, sections IV and VI of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015, section XVII of its resolution 70/248 A of 23 December 2015, section XIV of its resolution 71/272 A of 23 December 2016, section XXI of its resolution 72/262 A of 24 December 2017, section XVII of its resolution 73/279 A of 22 December 2018, section XVII of its resolution 74/263 of 27 December 2019, section V of its resolution 75/253 A of 31 December 2020, section VI of its resolution 76/246 A of 24 December 2021, section II of its resolution 77/263 B of 18 April 2023 and section I of its resolution 78/253 of 22 December 2023,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the progress on the functioning and development of the Umoja system 1 and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A/79/7/Add.24.





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A/79/391.

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

### II Request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

Recalling its resolution 58/284 of 8 April 2004, section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, section II of its resolution 59/294 of 22 June 2005, section XII of its resolution 65/259, section IX of its resolution 66/247 of 24 December 2011, section I of its resolution 67/246, section VII of its resolution 70/248 A, section III of its resolution 71/272 A, section VIII of its resolution 72/262 A, section III of its resolution 73/279 A, section VI of its resolution 74/263, section XVI of its resolution 75/253 A, section XI of its resolution 76/246 A, section III of its resolution 77/263 A of 30 December 2022 and section III of its resolution 78/253.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the use of the commitment authority and request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone<sup>3</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>4</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
- 3. Reaffirms the high priority accorded to the work of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone;
- 4. *Emphasizes* that the subvention from the regular budget is a bridging financing mechanism to supplement insufficient voluntary contributions, and encourages all Member States to provide voluntary support for the Residual Special Court:
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to seek voluntary contributions, including through broadening the donor base and holding regular consultations with the key stakeholders, as well as to implement innovative fundraising approaches, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its eightieth session;
- 6. Welcomes the support provided by several countries, including voluntary contributions, pro bono annual audit of the Residual Special Court and in-kind support in enforcing sentences, relocating witnesses, housing the archives of the Residual Special Court as well as prisoners of the Court, and hosting fundraising activities;
- 7. Also welcomes the continued in-kind multiform support provided by the Government of Sierra Leone to the Residual Special Court, including the provision of rent-free office space and other services at no cost;
- 8. Further welcomes the efforts to date of the Residual Special Court to digitize judicial records, notes that full digitization of all records remains incomplete, and encourages the Court to continue to work towards the completion of the full digitization of archives within the existing resources;
  - 9. Takes note of paragraph 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 10. Appreciates the efforts made by the Residual Special Court on costefficiency measures, encourages the Court to continue its efforts aimed at identifying

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A/79/386.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> A/79/7/Add.18.

additional cost-efficiency and the relevant cost-savings measures to be applied in view of the persistent funding challenges, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its eightieth session;

- 11. Recalls paragraph 31 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to seek alternative and sustainable financing arrangements for the Residual Special Court and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of its eightieth session;
- 12. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 2,916,200 United States dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Residual Special Court for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of the commitment authority in the context of his next report;

### III Request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Recalling section I of its resolution 68/247 B of 9 April 2014, section I of its resolution 69/274 A, section IV of its resolution 70/248 A, section II of its resolution 71/272 A, section IX of its resolution 72/262 A, section IV of its resolution 73/279 A, section V of its resolution 74/263, section XX of its resolution 75/253 A, section XII of its resolution 76/246 A, section IV of its resolution 77/263 A and section IV of its resolution 78/253,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the use of the commitment authority and request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia<sup>5</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>6</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
- 3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia;
- 4. *Notes with appreciation* the sustained contributions of the Government of Cambodia, as the host country, for the Extraordinary Chambers;
- 5. *Notes* the progress of the residual functions of the Extraordinary Chambers, and expresses appreciation for the sustained level of national commitment and responsibility of the Government of Cambodia;
- 6. Encourages the Extraordinary Chambers to continue to adopt appropriate measures for achieving operational savings and efficiencies while properly carrying out the residual functions in a transparent, accountable, cost-effective and expeditious manner, with a view to a timely completion of the residual phase;
- 7. Recalls paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and stresses the importance of maintaining and preserving the records of the Extraordinary Chambers in the three official languages of the Chambers and making those documents easily accessible for the general public;
- 8. *Welcomes* all financial and in-kind contributions to support the work of the Extraordinary Chambers;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> A/79/519 and A/79/519/Corr.1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> A/79/7/Add.23.

- 9. Encourages all Member States to provide continuing and additional voluntary support for both the international and national components of the Extraordinary Chambers in support of the expeditious completion of the mandate of the Chambers;
- 10. Recalls paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reaffirms that expenses of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers should be borne by voluntary contributions, further encourages all Member States to provide continuing and additional voluntary support for the Extraordinary Chambers, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his intensive efforts to obtain additional voluntary contributions, including by broadening the donor base;
- 11. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 1,856,700 dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025 as a bridging mechanism;

### IV

# Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for 2025 under section 26, Palestine refugees

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General<sup>7</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>8</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
  - 3. Takes note of paragraphs 6 and 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 4. *Approves* the proposal of the Secretary-General for post and non-post resources;

#### V

# Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2024 session

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General<sup>9</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>10</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Approves the establishment of three posts: one Economic Affairs Officer (P-3), one Programme Management Officer (P-3) and one Research Assistant (General Service (Other level)) under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 4. Appropriates an additional amount of 439,900 dollars under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> A/79/515.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> A/79/7/Add.25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> A/79/380.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A/79/7/Add.21.

5. Also appropriates an amount of 33,300 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;

#### VI

# Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General<sup>11</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>12</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Approves the establishment, effective 1 January 2025, of one new temporary post at the P-3 level under section 3, Political affairs, special political missions, thematic cluster I: special and personal envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, to support the activities mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 78/282 of 23 May 2024; and one new temporary post at the P-3 level under section 8, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, to support the activities mandated by the Assembly in its decision 78/560 of 13 August 2024;
- 4. Appropriates an additional amount of 3,832,900 dollars under the proposed programme budget for 2025, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund, comprising:
- (a) 1,649,200 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;
- (b) 131,800 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, special political missions, thematic cluster I: special and personal envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General;
  - (c) 152,600 dollars under section 8, Legal affairs;
  - (d) 1,082,700 dollars under section 9, Economic and social affairs;
- (e) 242,200 dollars under section 10, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;
  - (f) 235,100 dollars under section 28, Global communications;
  - (g) 81,400 dollars under section 29B, Department of Operational Support;
- (h) 196,300 dollars under section 29C, Office of Information and Communications Technology;
  - (i) 61,600 dollars under section 34, Safety and security;
- 5. Also appropriates an amount of 282,500 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> A/79/554.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A/79/7/Add.27.

### VII Capital investment planning

Recalling its resolutions 76/245 of 24 December 2021 and 78/253,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General<sup>13</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>14</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

### VIII

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

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General  $^{15}$  and the related reports of the Advisory Committee,  $^{16}$ 

Expressing deep concern about the detrimental effect of the withholding of assessed contributions on the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations and its ability to implement mandates and programmes,

- 1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
- 3. Recalls paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>17</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to improve the overall presentation of the financial performance of the special political missions;
- 4. Notes with appreciation the initiative to build a culture of efficiency in special political missions which generates accountability, saving and cost avoidance, and reiterates that Member State resources should be managed with utmost efficiency, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to improve the culture of efficiency in both headquarters and field missions, and use a data-driven approach in formulating budgetary requirements, based on mandated activities, and continue to report thereon in future budget submissions;
- 5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the use of financial resources and to avoid unnecessary rushing expenditure of surplus funds before the end of the fiscal year, while acknowledging that spending progress could be impacted by liquidity management measures;
- 6. Recognizes that patterns of underexpenditure across various budget lines under the ongoing liquidity challenges of the Organization can be linked to limited released allotments, and stresses that this specific type of underexpenditure should not be used to achieve budgetary savings;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> A/79/510.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> A/79/7/Add.15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.1, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.2, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.3, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.4, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.5, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.6, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.7, A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.8 and A/79/6 (Sect. 3)/Add.9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> A/79/7/Add.1, A/79/7/Add.2, A/79/7/Add.3, A/79/7/Add.4, A/79/7/Add.5, A/79/7/Add.6, A/79/7/Add.19, A/79/7/Add.20 and A/79/7/Add.26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> A/79/7/Add.1.

- 7. Recalls paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>18</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to provide information on liquidation within existing reports in a separate section, as appropriate;
- 8. Also recalls paragraph 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>19</sup> notes the progress in the nationalization of international positions in special political missions, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the nationalization of positions, whenever appropriate, as well as to build local capacity within the special political missions and to report thereon in the context of future budget submissions;
- 9. *Notes* the role of in-person engagement for the implementation of the mandates of special political missions, and requests the Secretary-General to make judicious use of resources for official travel;
- 10. Reiterates its concern about the high number of vacancies, and requests the Secretary-General to fill vacant positions expeditiously, and to conduct a review on how to effectively utilize existing posts, including those that have been vacant for 24 months or longer, and to report the results of the review by proposing either their retention, with clear justification of need, changing of post or proposing their abolishment, as appropriate, in his future reports;
- 11. Recalls its stipulation that the use of external consultants should be kept to an absolute minimum and that the Organization should utilize its in-house capacity to perform core activities or to fulfil functions that are recurrent over the long term;
- 12. Also recalls the provisions of section XVIII of its resolution 61/276 of 29 June 2007, recognizes the important role played by quick-impact projects in establishing and building confidence in missions, also recognizes the importance of conducting assessments of the quick-impact projects regularly, on their needs and impact as required in resolution 61/276, requests the Secretary-General to include the conducted assessments in his next reports, and also requests the Secretary-General to enhance their impact;
- 13. Further recalls paragraph 56 of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>20</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to review the services provided to the existing clients of the Kuwait Joint Support Office and to report thereon in the context of his next report;
- 14. Reaffirms its commitment to considering the review of the arrangements on the funding and backstopping of the special political missions and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and expresses its commitment to considering this matter, with a view to making a decision, without prejudging the outcome, at the main part of its eightieth session;
- 15. Welcomes and notes with appreciation the contributions made by host countries to the work of special political missions;
- 16. *Reaffirms* the principles of impartiality, consent of the parties, national ownership and national responsibility, and stresses the significance of the views of and dialogue with countries hosting special political missions;
- 17. Expresses concern about the significant variance between the actual vehicle and computing device holdings and standard allocations in special political missions, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to update the vehicle holding ratio and related guidance, as well as the computing device allocation ratio, to enable the missions to improve the transparency and accuracy of the relevant budgets;

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid.

- 18. Welcomes the early issuance of reports, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to present future budget proposals for special political missions, including revised estimates when applicable, at the beginning of the Fifth Committee session in order to allow sufficient time for consideration by the General Assembly;
- 19. Requests the Secretary-General to also include in the Umoja budget portal budget data for special political missions in line with how information is presented in Umoja for peacekeeping operations, and also requests the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to provide accurate and precise information in Umoja;
- 20. Emphasizes the importance of adequate energy and waste management in order to minimize risk to people, societies and ecosystems, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify the efforts aimed at reducing the overall environmental footprint of missions, including through the implementation of environmentally responsible waste management and power generation systems, also working towards a potential positive legacy for host communities, in full compliance with the relevant regulations and rules;
- 21. Stresses that special political missions and other United Nations entities should identify areas of complementarity and avoid duplication of resources, while carrying out their distinct mandates, including in cooperation with host countries, and encourages the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly on the efficiencies achieved as a result of this coordination in the context of his next report;
- 22. Requests the Secretary-General to conduct a review on flexible working arrangements in special political missions and report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of his next budget submission;
- 23. Calls upon the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to advance the implementation of the zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse throughout the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes, peacekeeping missions and non-United Nations forces authorized by the Security Council;
- 24. Stresses and re-emphasizes that best value for money; fairness, integrity and transparency; effective international competition; and the interest of the United Nations remain the four general principles of United Nations procurement, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that those principles are adhered to in all United Nations procurement activities;
- 25. Reiterates the importance of thorough, responsive and advance planning for any mission transition process based on operational drawdown and transition plans that draw on lessons learned and take account of specific circumstances;
- 26. *Notes* the large number of long-vacant posts (over 36 months) in 2025, requests the Secretary-General to find efficiencies in the course of the budget year, and decides to further reduce resources by 3 million dollars;
- 27. Takes note of paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee, 21 and decides to establish one post of Research Assistant (General Service (Other level)) in the Office of the Focal Point for Delisting;
- 28. *Decides* to abolish the following long-vacant posts in the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria:
  - (a) One post of Chief Security Officer (P-4);
  - (b) One post of Political Affairs Officer (P-3);

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> A/79/7/Add.20.

- (c) One post of Administrative Assistant (General Service (Other level));
- (d) One post of Field Security Assistant (Local level);
- (e) One post of Military Adviser (P-4);
- 29. Recalls paragraph 10 (e) of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>22</sup> and decides to abolish one post of Associate Human Resources Officer (National Professional Officer) in Sana'a and in conjunction to establish one post of Associate Human Resources Officer (National Professional Officer) in Aden in the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen;
- 30. Takes note of paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, 23 and decides to establish one post of Finance and Budget Officer at the P-4 level in the Office of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan;
- 31. Also takes note of paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>24</sup> and decides to approve the establishment of one position of Legal Officer (P-3) in the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate;
- 32. Further takes note of paragraph 19 of the report of the Advisory Committee, 25 and decides to establish seven general temporary positions (3 P-4, 1 P-3 and 3 National Professional Officer) for the mine action programme in the United Nations Support Mission in Libya;
- 33. *Decides* to abolish one long-vacant post of Political Affairs Officer (P-3) in the United Nations Support Mission in Libya;
  - 34. Takes note of paragraph 29 (b) of the report of the Advisory Committee; <sup>26</sup>
- 35. Also takes note of paragraph 14 of the report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>27</sup> and welcomes efforts to effectively utilize existing posts to fulfil the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;
- 36. Decides to abolish three long-vacant posts of Claims Assistant (Local level), Finance Assistant (Local level) and Assistant Human Resources Officer (National Professional Officer) in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;
- 37. Approves the budgets in the amount of 595,211,500 dollars for the 37 continuing special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council, and an amount of 2,298,800 dollars for the share of special political missions in the budget of the Regional Service Centre in Entebbe, Uganda, for 2025, under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 38. Takes note of paragraphs 19, 23 and 37 of the report of the Advisory Committee, 28 and authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments with assessment in an amount not to exceed 86,500,000 dollars for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025, and requests the Secretary-General to present a revised budget at the first part of the resumed seventy-ninth session, taking into account the transition and liquidation plan, and notes Security Council resolution 2732 (2024) of 31 May 2024, by which the Council extended the mandate of the

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 $<sup>^{22}</sup>$  A/79/7/Add.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> A/79/7/Add.19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> A/79/7/Add.3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> A/79/7/Add.4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> A/79/7/Add.5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> A/79/7/Add.6.

United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq for a final 19-month period, until 31 December 2025;

### IX

# Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its fifty-fifth, fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh regular sessions

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General<sup>29</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>30</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. *Approves* additional appropriations in the amount of 15,341,900 dollars for the proposed programme budget for 2025, comprising:
- (a) 941,200 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;
  - (b) 13,919,500 dollars under section 24, Human rights;
  - (c) 481,200 dollars under section 28, Global communications;
- 4. Also approves the establishment, effective 1 January 2025, of 16 posts, including 12 posts under section 24, Human rights, and 4 posts under section 28, Global communications, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, to support the activities mandated by the Human Rights Council in its resolutions 55/28<sup>31</sup> and 55/29 of 5 April 2024,<sup>32</sup> 56/13 of 11 July 2024,<sup>33</sup> 57/19 of 10 October 2024<sup>34</sup> and 57/28 of 11 October 2024<sup>35</sup> and its decision 56/115 of 10 July 2024;<sup>36</sup>
- 5. Further approves an additional appropriation in the amount of 1,430,400 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, to be offset by an equivalent increase of 1,430,400 dollars under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

#### X

# Revised estimates resulting from General Assembly resolution 79/1, entitled "The Pact for the Future"

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General $^{37}$  and the related report of the Advisory Committee, $^{38}$ 

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> A/79/575.

<sup>30</sup> A/79/7/Add.42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> See Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/79/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>32</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Ibid., chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Ibid. Supplement No. 53A (A/79/53/Add.1), chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Ibid., Supplement No. 53 (A/79/53), chap. V, sect. B.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> A/79/583.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> A/79/7/Add.43.

- 3. Approves an additional appropriation relating to the Pact for the Future, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund for 2025, in the amount of 2,920,500 dollars, comprising 94,600 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 1,696,600 dollars under section 3, Political affairs, 90,000 dollars under section 4, Disarmament, 677,100 dollars under section 9, Economic and social affairs, 262,800 dollars under section 12, Trade and development, and 99,400 dollars under section 29B, Department of Operational Support, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 4. Also approves the establishment, effective 1 January 2025, of seven new posts (2 P-5, 3 P-4 and 2 P-3) under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, to support the activities mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 79/1 of 22 September 2024;
- 5. Further approves the establishment of the Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 6. Approves an additional appropriation relating to the Global Digital Compact, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund for 2025, in the amount of 1,719,900 dollars, comprising 1,543,000 dollars under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, and 176,900 dollars under section 12, Trade and development, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 7. Also approves, effective 1 January 2025, the conversion of six posts (1 Under-Secretary-General, 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-2, 1 P-1 and 1 General Service (Other level)) from the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology that are funded from extrabudgetary resources to regular budget funding under the new Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 8. Further approves an additional appropriation in the amount of 372,100 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

#### ΧI

# Programme budget implications arising from recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2024

Having considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly 39 and the related report of the Advisory Committee, 40

- 1. Recalls its resolution 79/252 A of 24 December 2024;
- 2. Takes note of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General;
- 3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> A/C.5/79/5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> A/79/7/Add.14.

### XII

# Addressing the deteriorating conditions and limited capacity of the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Having considered the third annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the Gigiri master plan addressing the deteriorating conditions and limited capacity of the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi<sup>41</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>42</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Kenya for its continued support for the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to engage with the host country to ensure the success of the project;
- 4. Acknowledges the need to address the deteriorating conditions and limited capacity of the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the urgent need to implement the project in a timely manner to address the situation, increase its utilization and to bring the Office to a standard consistent with other United Nations headquarters;
- 5. Stresses that the construction project is entitled "Addressing the deteriorating conditions and limited capacity of the conference services facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi", and requests the Secretary-General to submit options for a possible project name in the context of the next annual progress report for consideration by the General Assembly;
- 6. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;
- 7. Reaffirms that the proposed dedicated project management team for the United Nations Office at Nairobi conference services facilities will be a time-limited and mission-specific endeavour and that the team should therefore not be a permanent addition to the existing organisational structure;
- 8. Recalls paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and further encourages the Secretary-General to continue to incorporate local knowledge, technology, capacity and the use of locally sourced and manufactured materials, as well as local labour and expertise, throughout the implementation of the project, as appropriate, and to provide updates on efficiency gains thereon in future progress reports;
- 9. Also recalls paragraph 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and further encourages the Secretary-General to continue to identify potential linkages and synergies between this project and the project for the replacement of office blocks A to J;
- 10. Further recalls section VII of its resolution 66/247, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the implementation of this project and the finalization of other ongoing major capital projects in a timely manner;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> A/79/345.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> A/79/7/Add.13.

- 11. Stresses that any increase to the maximum overall budget must be approved by the General Assembly before entering into corresponding financial commitments:
- 12. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote cost-efficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, 43 while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;
- 13. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;
- 14. *Emphasizes* that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;
- 15. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to proactively monitor and mitigate all project risks, to take all measures necessary to ensure the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly and to include in his next progress report an update on risk management and related mitigation measures;
- 16. Recalls paragraph 21 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure oversight, transparency and strict adherence to the relevant legislative framework in the procurement of goods and services for the project, and to provide more detailed information in the context of future progress reports;
- 17. Also recalls its resolution 78/253, reiterates the important role of the United Nations Office at Nairobi as a duty station of the United Nations, requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure compliance with the general principle established in the headquarters rule, encourages the Secretary-General to continue the efforts being made by the United Nations Office at Nairobi to attract more United Nations intergovernmental meetings to its facilities, as appropriate, and emphasizes that the intergovernmental meetings shall be given priority in using the facilities to further increase the utilization of the conference facilities;
- 18. *Emphasizes* that the utilization and management of the conference facilities of the United Nations Office at Nairobi should be in line with the applicable criteria for the use of United Nations premises, and encourages the use of best practices and lessons learned from other United Nations conference facilities;
- 19. *Recalls* paragraph 28 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated information, along with projected utilization rates for future meetings, in the next progress reports;
- 20. Also recalls its resolution 78/253, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure conformity with relevant building codes and standards, technology and workplace safety, as well as best practices for persons with disabilities, in the design, construction and renovation of the United Nations Office at Nairobi facilities;
- 21. Further recalls paragraph 34 of the report of the Advisory Committee, considers that the use of the contingency provision should be tightly monitored and limited to the absolute minimum, particularly during the early stages of a project, and requests the Secretary-General to provide in all future progress reports detailed

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> ST/SGB/2013/4 and ST/SGB/2013/4/Amend.1.

information on the approved, utilized and remaining balances of the contingency provision, as part of the overall project budget, at each stage of the project, as well as any available indication of projected use of contingency amounts in the following year;

- 22. Notes that changes in escalation rates constitute direct changes in the overall project resource requirements, and stresses that such changes should be accurately reflected in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly;
- 23. Approves the establishment of three additional temporary positions for project management under section 29D, Administration, Nairobi, and three additional temporary positions under section 34, Safety and security, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;
- 24. Appropriates an additional amount of 23,132,000 dollars for the project in 2025, comprising 19,459,200 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance; 3,610,100 dollars under section 29D, Administration, Nairobi; and 62,700 dollars under section 34, Safety and security, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;

#### XIII

# Progress on the replacement of office blocks A to J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Recalling section XIV of its resolution 72/262 A, section IX of its resolution 73/279 A, section XIII of its resolution 74/263, section XIV of its resolution 75/253 A, section XV of its resolution 76/246 A, section XII of its resolution 77/263 A and section XVI of its resolution 78/253,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General<sup>44</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>45</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Kenya for its continued support for the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and trusts that the Secretary-General will continue to engage with the host country to ensure the success of the project;
- 4. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide an update in the context of his next progress report;
- 5. Recalls paragraph 10 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and notes the impact of the increased demand for accommodation of staff members of entities located in Nairobi, which was not foreseen in the original space requirements for the project;
- 6. Also recalls paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to incorporate local knowledge, technology, capacity and the use of locally sourced and manufactured materials, as well as local labour and expertise, especially throughout the implementation of the construction project, and looks forward to updates thereon in future progress reports;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> A/79/267.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> A/79/7/Add.11.

- 7. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to identify any potential linkages and synergies between this project and the United Nations Office at Nairobi conference facilities project, and to provide further information in the context of his next report;
- 8. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote cost-efficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;
- 9. Stresses the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;
- 10. Emphasizes that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned:
- 11. Recalls paragraph 19 of the Advisory Committee, and commends the office blocks A to J project for currently being on time and within budget, and requests that the Secretary-General continue to closely monitor and mitigate project risks, ensuring the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly;
- 12. Appropriates an additional net amount of 906,100 dollars for project activities in 2025 under section 29D, Administration, Nairobi, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

### XIV

# Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok

Recalling section XII of its resolution 70/248 A, section IV of its resolution 71/272 A, section XIII of its resolution 72/262 A, section VII of its resolution 73/279 A, section XII of its resolution 74/263, section XII of its resolution 75/253 A, section VII of its resolution 76/246 A, section XI of its resolution 77/263 A and section XIII of its resolution 78/253,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General  $^{46}$  and the related report of the Advisory Committee,  $^{47}$ 

- 1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Thailand, as the host country, for its continued efforts in supporting and facilitating the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific through voluntary contributions and transfer of local knowledge and expertise towards the execution of the project;
- 4. Recalls paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee, appreciates the contribution by Member States, especially the Governments of the People's Republic of China and Kazakhstan and other Member States that contributed and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> A/79/221.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> A/79/7/Add.10.

made pledges to the project, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to remain active in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant regulations and rules of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;

- 5. Welcomes the positive steps taken towards engaging with the host country, and encourages the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to continue to engage with the host country in this regard;
- 6. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote costefficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;
- 7. Stresses the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;
- 8. Emphasizes that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;
- 9. Recognizes the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for its continued efforts to mitigate the risk of delays in the project, control construction costs, enhance efficiencies and mitigate the impact of unforeseen circumstances on the project budget approved by the General Assembly;
- 10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to proactively monitor and mitigate all project risks, to take all measures necessary to ensure the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline approved by the General Assembly and to include in his next progress report an update on risk management and related mitigation measures;
- 11. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to actively manage the owner-directed changes, and reiterates that any additional project costs resulting from late-stage changes initiated by tenants, which may result in potential claims, should be borne by the respective tenant, not by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;
- 12. Further requests the Secretary-General to continue to take into account lessons learned and best practices from past construction and renovation projects and, in particular, to draw from experience and knowledge acquired from other capital projects, to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within budget and in a timely manner, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on measures considered and applied in this regard in his next progress report;
- 13. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to intensify his efforts to include local knowledge, technology, capacity and the use of locally sourced and manufactured materials, as well as local labour and expertise, throughout the implementation of the construction project;
- 14. Welcomes the steps taken by the Secretary-General to ensure that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific building is compliant with relevant building standards and best practices for persons with disabilities, and requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on relevant progress made in his next report;

- 15. Commends the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for its initiative in establishing a transition strategy to minimize project cost increases and facilitate the transfer of knowledge and responsibilities from the project team to operational staff within the Division of Administration of the Commission, and requests the Secretary-General to document and share best practices and lessons learned from the transition strategy with a view to applying it in future construction projects of the United Nations;
- 16. Encourages the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from other relevant areas of the project, including, inter alia, cost savings through increasing energy and space utilization efficiency, value engineering and the use of local materials and knowledge;

### XV

# Progress in the renovation of Africa Hall at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa

Recalling section III of its resolution 65/259, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section III of its resolution 68/247 A of 27 December 2013, section V of its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014, section IX of its resolution 70/248 A, section V of its resolution 71/272 A, section XII of its resolution 72/262 A, section VIII of its resolution 73/279 A, section X of its resolution 74/263, section X of its resolution 75/253 A, section VIII of its resolution 76/246 A, section IX of its resolution 77/263 A and section XIV of its resolution 78/253,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General $^{48}$  and the related report of the Advisory Committee, $^{49}$ 

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Welcomes the inauguration of the renovated Africa Hall, which took place on 21 October 2024, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Ethiopia, as the host country, for its continued support for the project, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to engage with the host country on all matters related to the project and its sustained use;
- 4. Recalls paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee, appreciates the contributions and pledges made by Member States to the project, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to continue to seek both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant regulations and rules of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;
- 5. Encourages the Secretary-General to continue engaging with Member States as well as the African Union Commission to mobilize voluntary contributions to support the project and the visitors' centre, taking into consideration that Africa Hall is the historical birthplace of the Organization of African Unity and the African heritage it represents;
- 6. Reiterates its appreciation for the continued commitment of the Secretary-General to ensuring the preservation of the historical and architectural integrity of Africa Hall, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General enhance efforts to engage key stakeholders in implementing the heritage conservation objective, to raise

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> A/79/222.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> A/79/7/Add.8.

global awareness of the historic Africa Hall and the African heritage that it represents, and to cultivate partnerships with regional and international academic and research institutions, including universities and museums, specializing in African history and culture;

- 7. Recalls paragraph 13 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to make concerted efforts to ensure the utilization of local knowledge, materials, technology and capacity, including for the various artwork restoration services;
- 8. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote costefficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;
- 9. Stresses the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;
- 10. Emphasizes that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to engage with the Stakeholders Committee, the Advisory Board and the host country to improve coordination efforts in the implementation of the project;
- 11. Recalls paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to include an update on the management of the main risks and the related mitigation measures, with a view to keeping the approved time frame of the project, to avoiding cost overruns and to ensuring the delivery of the project within the scope, budget and timeline, as approved by the General Assembly, and requests an update in the context of his next progress report;
- 12. Also recalls paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of this project are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;
- 13. Requests the Secretary-General to provide a budget proposal for the visitors' centre in line with corresponding staffing structures at other United Nations headquarters and offices away from Headquarters, in the context of his budget submission for 2026 under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, as well as income section 3, Services to the public, as appropriate;
- 14. Recalls paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, regrets the loss of 3.69 million dollars due to the bankruptcy of a contractor that was granted a special approval, stresses the importance of applying protective measures, as appropriate, in securing the interests of the United Nations in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, and requests the Secretary-General to provide additional information in his next progress report on lessons learned and future steps to avoid similar cases, and to share such lessons with other construction projects;
- 15. Appropriates an additional amount of 311,600 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

### XVI

# Progress on the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago

Recalling section VII of its resolution 69/274 A, section VI of its resolution 70/248 B of 1 April 2016, section V of its resolution 72/262 A, section X of its resolution 73/279 A, section XI of its resolution 74/263, section XI of its resolution 75/253 A, section XVI of its resolution 76/246 A, section X of its resolution 77/263 A and section XVIII of its resolution 78/253,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General<sup>50</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>51</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. Expresses its gratitude to the Government of Chile, as the host country, for its continued efforts in supporting and facilitating the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;
- 4. Acknowledges the important role played by the host countries in facilitating the maintenance and construction of United Nations facilities, and stresses the value of continued collaboration with host countries in this regard;
- 5. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, and to provide detailed information on the matter in the context of his next progress report;
- 6. *Notes* the change in strategy for the closeout period, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to closely monitor the closeout strategy of the project;
- 7. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote costefficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;
- 8. Stresses the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within the approved budget and time schedule;
- 9. *Emphasizes* that the Global Asset Management Policy Service should continue to be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned:
- 10. Requests the Secretary-General to closely monitor and mitigate all project risks and take all measures necessary to ensure the delivery of the project within the scope, revised budget and timeline, as approved by the General Assembly, and also requests the Secretary-General to include information on risk management and mitigation measures taken in his next progress report;
- 11. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to take into account lessons learned and best practices from past construction and renovation projects and, in particular, to draw from experience and knowledge acquired from other capital

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> A/79/220.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> A/79/7/Add.9.

projects, to ensure that the objectives of the project are achieved within budget and in a timely manner, and further requests the Secretary-General to provide an update on measures considered and applied in this regard in his next progress report;

- 12. Recalls paragraph 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee, underscores the importance of protective measures in securing the interest of the United Nations, and trusts that the Secretary-General will keep their effectiveness under review;
- 13. Welcomes the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as a sustainable and energy-efficient building where the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is equal to or less than the amount of renewable energy generated on site;

### **XVII**

### Strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva

Recalling part XI of its resolution 64/243, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section V of its resolution 68/247 A, sections III and VII of its resolution 69/262, section X of its resolution 70/248 A, section XVIII of its resolution 71/272 A, section XVI of its resolution 72/262 A, section XIII of its resolution 73/279 A, section VII of its resolution 74/263, section IX of its resolution 75/253 A, section XVIII of its resolution 76/246 A, section VI of its resolution 77/263 A and section XIX of its resolution 78/253,

Having considered the eleventh annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva, <sup>52</sup> the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the fifth report of the Board of Auditors on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva <sup>53</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee, <sup>54</sup>

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. *Takes note* of the findings of the report of the Board of Auditors, and endorses the recommendations contained therein;
- 4. *Welcomes* the continued support of the Government of Switzerland for the construction project in Geneva;
- 5. Stresses the importance of close coordination between the strategic heritage plan project team and the Secretariat in New York, in particular the Global Asset Management Policy Service, to ensure success in all aspects of the project;
- 6. Also stresses the importance of effective governance, oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the project objectives are achieved on time and within budget;
- 7. Reiterates its request to preserve the historical heritage of the Palais des Nations;
  - 8. Acknowledges the substantial completion of section S1 in 2024;
- 9. Regrets further delays incurred in the project, and requests the Secretary-General to present a revised overall construction schedule in his next progress report;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> A/79/352.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> A/79/166.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> A/79/7/Add.12.

- 10. *Notes* the continued high risk of key staff departing before the end of the project, and requests the Secretary-General to report on efforts to mitigate the impact of staff turnover and departure on project implementation;
- 11. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the procurement of goods and services for the construction project is carried out in strict compliance with the existing regulations, rules and relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions governing procurement in the United Nations;
- 12. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the project team takes vendors, notably from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, fully into account and to report on the specific steps taken and progress achieved in the context of increasing procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the strategic heritage plan;
- 13. Further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all activities promote cost-efficiency and transparency, are implemented within existing resources and in accordance with the United Nations legislative framework, including the Financial Regulations and Rules, while maintaining full accountability to the General Assembly;
- 14. Reiterates the project's objective to lower the energy consumption of the Palais des Nations by at least 25 per cent compared with the 2010 baseline;
- 15. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure maximum utilization of building H;
- 16. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue documenting best practices and lessons learned from capital construction projects, including value engineering, multistage request for proposals and the use of local materials and knowledge, and to consider their application, as appropriate, to ensure that the objectives of the projects are achieved within the approved budget and timeline;
- 17. Further requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases or schedule overruns, including tight cost control, regular and proactive review of risks, value engineering and cost-saving measures, in order to ensure that the cost of the project will not exceed the approved budget level, notes such measures undertaken to date, and looks forward to receiving further information in his next progress report;
- 18. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that any change that affects the scope of the strategic heritage plan project is presented for the consideration and decision of the General Assembly;
- 19. *Reaffirms* the proposed project scope, schedule and estimated cost of the strategic heritage plan in the maximum amount of 836,500,000 Swiss francs;
- 20. Emphasizes that the Monte Carlo model, while useful as a risk management tool, should not form the basis for determining budgetary requirements of the strategic heritage plan project and other construction projects of the Organization;
- 21. Recalls paragraph 60 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to present for the consideration of the General Assembly at the second part of its resumed seventy-ninth session an updated report containing the most cost-effective guaranteed maximum price agreement for building E renovations, together with options that aim to avoid cost overruns and escalations, as well as limit consequences of delays in the overall project, including a clear and detailed cost-benefit analysis for each option;

- 22. Decides to continue to use the multi-year construction-in-progress account established within the regular budget for expenditures related to the strategic heritage plan in 2025;
- 23. Also decides to revert to the establishment of an assessment scheme and currency of appropriation and assessment for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its eightieth session, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated detailed information on these issues;
- 24. Further decides to revert to the establishment of the multi-year special account for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of its eightieth session;
- 25. *Decides* that the annual repayments of the loans to the host country will be funded under the regular budget until decided otherwise by the General Assembly;
- 26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, in attracting voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, to give priority to those activities within the scope of the project;
- 27. Appreciates the existing voluntary contributions received from Member States to finance the strategic heritage plan, and requests the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, as well as donations by private entities, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization and agreements related to donations for the strategic heritage plan, and to provide detailed information on this matter in the context of his next progress report;
- 28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that remaining recommendations of the Board of Auditors are implemented fully and expeditiously;
- 29. Approves the continuation of the position of Architect (P-4) until the end of 2025:
- 30. Also approves the change in function of the operational expert (P-3) from Architect to Engineer;
- 31. Appropriates the amount of 32,183,700 dollars (equivalent to 26,455,000 Swiss francs) for 2025, under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;

#### XVIII

Revised estimates relating to the programme budget for 2024 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, and section 29B, Department of Operational Support

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General  $^{55}$  and the related report of the Advisory Committee,  $^{56}$ 

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;
- 2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;
- 3. *Decides* to provide sufficient funding for the resident coordinator system, pending the submission of a refined comprehensive report at the eighty-first session, as follows:
- (a) By maintaining the current cost-sharing contribution by entities of the United Nations development system, including the Secretariat's share of the cost-sharing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> A/78/753.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> A/78/7/Add.46.

arrangement from the regular budget, and adjusted for annual inflation, starting from 1 January 2025, pending an agreement on the funding arrangement;

- (b) By maintaining the coordination levy on tightly earmarked third-party non-core contributions to United Nations development-related activities, excluding local government cost-sharing and cooperation among programme countries, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018;
- (c) By requesting the Secretary-General to explore, with a commitment to increasing, revenue generated by the levy through predictable measures applied equally to donors, such as broadening the base, reducing exceptions and other alternative means that will be reviewed by the General Assembly together with the comprehensive review;
- (d) Through voluntary, predictable, multi-year contribution to a dedicated trust fund;
- (e) Notes that the current funding model is expected to result in 215 million dollars from the levy, cost-sharing and the projected voluntary contribution in 2025, decides to authorize the Secretary-General, exceptionally and without creating a precedent, to enter into commitments with assessment not exceeding 53 million dollars for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2025, in accordance with United Nations financial regulations and rules, to support the funding of the resident coordinator system, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of the commitment authority and its continuation in the context of his performance and budget reports;
- 4. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a refined comprehensive and detailed report on the financing of and governance over the resident coordinator system to the General Assembly at its eighty-first session, including the following elements:
- (a) The presentation of the proposed structure and resource requirements for the resident coordinator system, in terms of both post and non-post costs, taking into account, inter alia, patterns of expenditure, the workload needs of each office in the field and at Headquarters, based on an office-by-office review of the "one-size-fits-all" approach to the structure of resident coordinator offices and resource requirements for the system that are tailored to the context and needs of the host country, in the context of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, and the respective size of United Nations country teams, and the sharing of staff and resources with relevant United Nations entities;
- (b) A comprehensive review of all possible funding models and funding streams, including a review of the adjustment of the coordination levy and cost-sharing arrangements, that takes into account past inflation over the years and reflects the diverse roles, capacities and mandates of entities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, voluntary contributions, assessed contributions, income generated by interest rates in different United Nations accounts with options to mitigate any potential negative impacts on programme countries, and redeployment of efficiency gains, and bearing in mind the need for a durable and sustainable financing solution, and that the sources of funding for future potential requests for changes in resource requirements of the resident coordinator system will not be strictly limited to any one funding stream of the hybrid funding model, which includes the partial redeployment of efficiency gains through cost-sharing;
- (c) A detailed results-based accountability model and performance framework strengthening the role of oversight and accountability mechanisms of resident coordinator offices and the overall resident coordinator system at the national, regional and global levels;

- (d) The implementation of efficiencies, particularly common back offices, including descriptions of how, and where, savings are achieved and duplications and overlaps are avoided;
- (e) Options of potential modalities on how the possible budgetary mechanisms, including a grant, a new budget section and any other alternative mechanism, would be considered by the Fifth Committee and other appropriate relevant committees, such as the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;
- (f) Actions taken and progress on the implementation of the requests contained in the present resolution;

### XIX

#### **International Trade Centre**

Approves resources in the amount of 23,376,800 dollars (the United Nations share equivalent to 50 per cent of 38,431,300 Swiss francs at the exchange rate of 0.8220 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for 2025 under section 13, International Trade Centre, of the proposed programme budget for 2025;

### XX

### Gross jointly financed budget of the Joint Inspection Unit

*Approves* the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for 2025 in the amount of 9,836,600 dollars;

#### XXI

### Gross jointly financed budget of the International Civil Service Commission

*Approves* the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for 2025 in the amount of 13,393,100 dollars;

### XXII

# Gross jointly financed budget of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

*Notes* the gross budget for the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2025 in the amount of 4,702,100 dollars;

#### XXIII

### Gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat for 2025 in the amount of 173,236,400 dollars, broken down as follows:

- (a) Field Security Operations: 154,637,700 dollars;
- (b) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 18,598,700 dollars;

### XXIV

### Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from changes in rates of exchange and inflation<sup>57</sup> and the related report of the Advisory Committee,<sup>58</sup>

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting owing to changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

### XXV

### **Contingency fund**

Recalls its resolution 78/253, in which the level of the contingency fund for the year 2025 was set at 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2024, or 26,913,200 dollars,

- 1. *Notes* that, after a charge of 26,298,800 dollars, a balance of 614,400 dollars remains in the contingency fund for 2025;
- 2. Decides that the contingency fund for the year 2026 shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2025.

55th (resumed) plenary meeting 24 December 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> A/79/375.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> A/79/7/Add.22.