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JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

Implementation of the recommendations of the Joint  
Inspection Unit

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative  
and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/34/6) in which he submits information on the implementation of recommendations contained in seven reports by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) which were deemed by the Unit to be of interest to the General Assembly, one of its Main Committees or its other subsidiary organs, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 32/199.
2. The seven reports in question are:
  - (a) Report on the implications of additional languages in the United Nations system (paras. 3-12);
  - (b) Report on programming and evaluation in the United Nations (paras. 13-21);
  - (c) Report on evaluation in the United Nations system (paras. 22-25);
  - (d) Report on the United Nations public administration and finance programme 1972-1976 (paras. 26-35);
  - (e) General Service staff of the United Nations and Geneva-based specialized agencies (paras. 36-51);
  - (f) Report on women in the Professional and higher categories in the United Nations system (paras. 52-68);
  - (g) Report on the implementation of the recommendations on first-class travel (para. 70).

3. The Advisory Committee notes that some of the information in document A/C.5/34/6 (particularly with regard to reports (a), (b) and (c)) is no longer current or relevant. The representatives of the Secretary-General informed the Committee that, although the report of the Secretary-General is dated 10 September 1979, it had been prepared several months earlier. Accordingly, document A/C.5/34/6 did not refer to subsequent decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination (CPC) or to recent reports of JIU on related subjects, including the report on medium-term planning in the United Nations (JIU/REP/79/5 dated March 1979), which is before the General Assembly at its current session (A/34/84), together with the comments thereon of the Secretary-General (A/34/84/Add.1) (see also para. 6 below).

4. As regards the recommendations on the control and limitation of documentation contained in the JIU report on implications of additional languages in the United Nations system (A/32/237), the report by the Secretary-General makes no mention of the recent decisions of the Economic and Social Council to control and limit its own documentation. <sup>1/</sup> They include the discontinuation for a two-year experimental period of the provision of summary records for meetings of all subsidiary bodies of the Council for which such records were still being provided.

5. Similarly, the information provided on the implementation of recommendations contained in the JIU report on programming and evaluation in the United Nations, (A/33/226), makes no reference to the recommendations of CPC at its nineteenth session to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly. The CPC has recommended, *inter alia*, that the medium-term plan should cover a period of six years and that it be brought up to date, as appropriate, no later than the end of the second year of its implementation. CPC has also recommended that the next proposed medium-term plan to be submitted should cover the period 1984-1989, and that, accordingly, the submission of a 1982-1985 proposed medium-term plan, currently scheduled for 1980, was no longer required (A/34/38, part I, chap. II, para. 72 (a) and (b)).

6. As regards the JIU reports on the question of evaluation (evaluation in the United Nations system) and programming and evaluation in the United Nations, submitted to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session under cover of notes by the Secretary-General (A/33/255) and (A/33/226) respectively), one further report has been issued this year, namely, the report on initial guidelines for internal evaluation systems of United Nations organizations (JIU/REP/79/2 dated February 1979-A/34/271 dated 31 May 1979). In that report the Inspectors state that JIU plans to review in 1980 the progress being made by the organizations in specifying and implementing their evaluation systems. The report of CPC on the work of its nineteenth session contains a progress report on evaluation (A/34/38, part II, chap. III).

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<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/34/3/Rev.1), chap. XXXVII.