



General Assembly

Sixty-third session

75th plenary meeting

Friday, 20 February 2009, 10 a.m.
New York

Official Records

President: Mr. D'Escoto Brockmann (Nicaragua)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Wolfe (Jamaica), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Agenda item 122 (continued)

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (A/63/725)

The Acting President: I would like, in keeping with established practice, to draw the attention of the General Assembly to document A/63/725, which contains a letter from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly in which he informs the Assembly that 13 Member States are in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the United Nations within the terms of Article 19 of the Charter.

I would like to remind delegations that, under Article 19 of the Charter,

“A Member of the United Nations which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contributions to the Organization shall have no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years.”

May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of the information contained in document A/63/725?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 7 (continued)

Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items

Third report of the General Committee (A/63/250/Add.2)

The Acting President: In paragraph 1 of its third report, the General Committee recommends to the General Assembly that an additional item entitled “Financing of activities arising from Security Council resolution 1863 (2009)” be included in the agenda of the current session under heading I, “Organizational, administrative and other matters”.

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to include that item in the agenda of the current session under heading I?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: In paragraph 1 (b) of its report, the General Committee further recommends that the item be allocated to the Fifth Committee. May I take it that the General Assembly decides to allocate the item to the Fifth Committee?

It was so decided.

The Chairman of the Fifth Committee will be informed of the decision just taken by the General Assembly.

I should like to inform members that the item entitled “Financing of activities arising from Security

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Council resolution 1863 (2009)” becomes item 157 of the agenda of the current session.

Draft decision (A/63/L.65)

The Acting President: We shall now proceed to consider draft decision A/63/L.65. I give the floor to the representative of the Secretariat.

Mr. Botnaru (Department for General Assembly and Conference Management): I would like to make this oral statement in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

Under the terms of the operative paragraph of draft decision A/63/L.65, the General Assembly would decide that

“the general debate for the sixty-fourth session shall be held from Wednesday, 23 September, to Saturday, 26 September, and from Monday, 28 September, to Wednesday, 30 September 2009, and that these arrangements shall in no way create a precedent for future sessions”.

With respect to the holding of the general debate of the General Assembly on Saturday, 26 September 2009, it should be noted that meetings have not been planned on that date, although regular meetings servicing requirements for the general debate during weekdays have been provided for within the official calendar of meetings. Therefore, a meeting on a Saturday implies overtime compensation for meetings servicing and other related staff.

Accordingly, resources related to overtime for meeting servicing staff would be required. In addition, other related staff from the Office of Central Support Services, the Department of Safety and Security and the Department of Public Information would be required to provide sound engineers, safety and security services, press coverage and webcasting; and radio and television services. The relevant costs under the programme budget, which total \$100,500, are as follows: \$59,600 under section 2, “General Assembly affairs and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management”; \$25,600 under section 27, “Public information”; \$5,100 under section 28 (D), “Office of Central Support Services”; and \$10,200 under section 33, “Safety and security”.

No provisions have been made under the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for servicing the general debate of the General Assembly

on a Saturday. Should the decision to hold the general debate of the General Assembly on Saturday, 26 September 2009 be adopted, indicative additional conference servicing and other requirements amounting to \$100,500 would arise. It is the intention of the Secretariat to make every effort to meet those requirements within the provisions under the relevant sections of the programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009, namely, section 2, “General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management”; section 27, “Public information”; section 28 (D), “Office of Central Support Services”; and section 33, “Safety and security”.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take action on draft decision A/63/L.65, entitled “General debate of the sixty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly”. May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt the draft decision?

Draft decision A/63/L.65 was adopted.

Agenda item 105 (continued)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments

(g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences

Note by the Secretary-General (A/63/107)

The Acting President: Members will recall that, at its 32nd plenary meeting, on 27 October 2008, the General Assembly took note of the President’s appointment of the Congo, France, Malaysia, Mozambique, the Philippines and the Russian Federation as members of the Committee on Conferences for a period of three years beginning on 1 January 2009. Members will also recall that there remains one seat to be filled from among the Latin American and Caribbean States. Following consultations with the Chairman of the Group of the Latin American and Caribbean States, the President has appointed Mexico as a member of the Committee on Conferences for a period of three years beginning on 1 January 2009. May I take it that the Assembly takes note of that appointment?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of sub-item (g) of agenda item 105.

(h) Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit

Note by the President of the General Assembly (A/63/667)

The Acting President: As indicated in the President's note, the General Assembly is required, during its current session, to appoint a member to fill the vacancy in the Joint Inspection Unit that will arise from the expiration of the term of office, on 31 December 2009, of Mr. Tadanori Inomata of Japan. In accordance with the procedures described in paragraph 1 of article 3 of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, and having consulted the regional group concerned, the President requested the delegation of Japan to propose a candidate to replace Mr. Inomata.

In accordance with resolution 59/267 of 23 December 2004, the candidate should have experience in at least one of the following fields: oversight, audit, inspection, investigation, evaluation, finance, project evaluation, programme evaluation, human resources management, management, public

administration and monitoring and/or programme performance, as well as knowledge of the United Nations system and its role in international relations.

In addition, as indicated in document A/63/667, as a result of the consultations held in accordance with paragraph 2 of article 3 of the statute of the Joint Inspection Unit, including consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council and with the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, I should like to submit to the Assembly the candidature of Mr. Tadanori Inomata of Japan for reappointment as a member of the Joint Inspection Unit for a five-year term of office beginning 1 January 2010 and expiring 31 December 2014. May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to appoint the candidate?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of sub-item (h) of agenda item 105.

The meeting rose at 10.35 a.m.