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Fiftieth session

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Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fiftieth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013

(Item 3 (a))

Programme 6

Legal affairs

1. At its 7th meeting, on 10 June 2010, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 (A/65/6 (Prog. 6)).
2. The representative of the Secretary-General introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. General appreciation and support were expressed for the work carried out by the Office of Legal Affairs through its various subprogrammes.
4. Clarification was sought on whether the current economic climate was causing a reduction in the international law training programmes. The view was expressed that the United Nations should increase the resources available for these training programmes and for the continuation of the development of the audiovisual library.
5. Clarification was sought on the introduction of the legal counsel regarding subprogramme 6, whereby, as part of the effort to contribute to a greener United Nations, the Treaty Section had discontinued the distribution of paper copies of a number of its publications and had reduced the number of distributed copies of the volumes of the United Nations *Treaty Series*, which is fully accessible on the



Section's website. The view was expressed that developing countries could have difficulty gaining access to this information on the website owing to limited availability of Internet access. A written response was requested on the details regarding the "greening" of the United Nations.

6. Clarification was sought as to what modalities were being developed for operational activities and initiatives to counter epidemics and other hazards.

7. Clarification was also sought as to what mechanisms were in place for liaison with the appropriate authorities of the host Government and other host countries to ensure that the Organization's international intergovernmental status and related privileges and immunities were maintained.

8. In addition, clarification was sought as to what actions were being taken by the United Nations regarding piracy off the coast of Somalia.

9. The view was expressed that there was a need to increase cooperation on marine biodiversity, transfer of technology and marine renewable energy resources in response to the current and increasing needs and demands of the international community and, in particular, the developing countries, and to strengthen subprogramme 4, the responsible unit for this area.

Conclusions and recommendations

10. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed strategic framework, subject to the following modifications:

Subprogramme 1

Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole

Strategy

Add new a paragraph, 6.11, to read:

"The Secretary-General, as the custodian of the Headquarters Agreement, shall reinforce the implementation of the Agreement, in particular its article IV, section 11 and section 13 (a), governing the host country's legal obligation to grant entry visas to the officials of all Member States attending United Nations meetings."

and renumber the subsequent paragraphs.

Sub programme 4

Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Indicators of achievement

Add indicator of achievement (b) (iii), to read:

"Increased cooperation relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources and their particular biodiversity, in areas beyond national jurisdiction"

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Indicators of achievement

In indicator of achievement (c) insert the words “in deposit or” after the word “received”.
