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Committee for Programme and Coordination

Fifty-first session

6 June-1 July 2011

Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-first session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Igor Krasnov (Belarus)

Addendum

Programme questions

evaluation (item 3 (b))

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs: field special political missions led by the Department of Political Affairs but supported by the Department of Field Support

1. At its 4th meeting, on 7 June 2011, the Committee considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-eighth session on the in-depth evaluation of political affairs: field special political missions led by the Department of Political Affairs but supported by the Department of Field Support (E/AC.51/2011/3).

2. The Acting Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and emphasized that special political missions have become crucial for the Organization's work in supporting peace and security. Some delegations noted with concern that there has been an



increase in the number of special political missions and that they currently account for 30 per cent of the regular budget. Delegations also stressed that strategic oversight remains the primary responsibility of Member States.

4. Delegations acknowledged the successful implementation of three of the four recommendations endorsed by the Committee. While delegations noted that the OIOS report acknowledged the compliance of the Department of Political Affairs with developing guidelines, harmonization in strategic planning was lacking. They requested the Department to further clarify how it plans to approach these issues and also elaborate on how special political missions should interact with United Nations funds and programmes to avoid redundancy and competition.

Conclusions and recommendations

5. **The Committee noted the efforts under way to strengthen the Department of Political Affairs in accordance with the overall objective of programme 2, Political affairs, of the strategic framework for the period 2012-2013 (A/65/6/Rev.1), as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/244, in order to maintain international peace and security.**

6. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that special political missions and other resident United Nations entities strengthen their cooperation and coordination in order to achieve the expected outcomes and enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Organization's work.**

7. **The Committee took note of the progress made to improve mission strategic planning in respect of the definition and application of the guidelines on the role and respective responsibilities of field special political missions, as well as better coordination and cooperation in support of such missions between the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Field Support.**

8. **The Committee noted with concern that recommendation 2 contained in the report of OIOS (E/AC.51/2008/2) and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 63/247, upon the recommendation of the Committee at its forty-eighth session, had not been fully implemented.**

9. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of comprehensive strategic planning, which provides for the alignment of planning documents with the budget, in the context of the results-based-budgeting process, particularly in respect of the need to have more meaningful indicators of achievement and better linkage between the objectives, activities and achievements of missions.**