

**REPORT
OF THE
JOINT INSPECTION UNIT**

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 34 (A/44/34)



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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[30 August 1989]

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report, the twenty-first prepared by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) since its creation on 1 January 1968, gives an account of the Unit's activities during the period 1 July 1988 to 30 June 1989. 1/

II. PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

2. The following are the participating organizations of JIU:

United Nations and its affiliated bodies

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

World Health Organization (WHO)

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

III. COMPOSITION OF THE UNIT

3. The composition of the Unit on 30 June 1989 was as follows:

Mr. Richard V. Hennes* (United States of America), Chairman
Mr. Kabongo Tunsala* (Zaire), Vice-Chairman
Mr. Adib Daoudy** (Syrian Arab Republic)
Mr. Alain Gourdon* (France)
Mr. M. Salah E. Ibrahim** (Egypt)
Mr. Ivan Kojió* (Yugoslavia)
Mr. Kahono Martohadinegoro**** (Indonesia)
Mr. Boris P. Prokofiev** (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
Mr. Raúl Quijano*** (Argentina)
Mr. Siegfried Schumm** (Federal Republic of Germany)
Mr. Norman Williams** (Panama)

* Term of office expires on 31 December 1990.

** Term of office expires on 31 December 1992.

*** Term of office expires on 31 December 1993.

**** Term of office expires on 31 December 1994.

4. In accordance with article 18 of its statute, the Unit elected Mr. Richard V. Hennes Chairman and Mr. Kabongo Tunsala Vice-Chairman for the calendar year ending 31 December 1989. During the year 1988, Mr. Kahono Martohadinegoro and Mr. Richard V. Hennes were Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively.

5. By its decision 43/326 of 22 December 1988, the General Assembly reappointed Mr. Kahono Martohadinegoro (Indonesia) for a term of office beginning on 1 January 1990 and expiring on 31 December 1994, and appointed Mr. Raúl Quijano (Argentina) for a term of office beginning on 1 April 1989 and expiring on 31 December 1993. Mr. Quijano replaces Mr. Enrique Ferrer-Vieyra, also of Argentina, who resigned from the Unit effective 1 April 1989.

V. WORK PROGRAMME

7. The work programme for 1989 was drawn up in accordance with article 9 of the Unit's statute, particular attention being paid to the guidelines given in resolution 43/221 of 21 December 1988 (see paras. 13 to 15 below). The work programme has taken into account requests and suggestions made by JIU's participating organizations. It has been circulated to Member States and participating organizations by the Secretary-General of the United Nations as document A/44/129. As in the recent past, the aims and focus of each study are described briefly, and evaluation studies are so identified. Studies that are likely to be undertaken in the 1990-1991 period are shown separately in the work programme.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 43/221

8. Member States have welcomed the measures introduced by the Joint Inspection Unit to improve its overall functioning, and the emphasis the Unit has placed on enhancing the quality, effectiveness and presentation of its reports. They encouraged a continuation of these efforts in adopting resolution 43/221 at the forty-third session of the General Assembly.

9. In furtherance of their support, Member States, in accordance with resolution 43/221, provided the Unit with guidelines to follow in drawing up future work programmes (paras. 6, 7 and 8). They also deemed follow-up of the Unit's recommendations to be of particular importance and encouraged its proper reflection in the appropriate section of the Unit's annual report (para. 3). They further encouraged the Unit to limit, where possible, the narrative part of reports, to expand the evaluative part and to offer practical and feasible recommendations (para. 4). Finally, recognizing a weakness in the attention paid to the consideration of the Unit's reports, Member States requested the Unit to recommend new procedures designed to encourage more detailed consideration of its reports by the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system (para. 10). The ensuring paragraphs provide full information on these aspects of the resolution.

Paragraph 3: "Encourages the Joint Inspection Unit to continue its efforts towards this end, particularly with regard to a section in its annual report on its findings concerning the implementation of its recommendations".

10. Chapter VII of the Unit's twentieth annual report 2/ dealt with the follow-up of JIU's reports, stating that the Unit was satisfied with progress made by the United Nations and its affiliated bodies in implementing the recommendations of nine reports in the general area of management. At the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, Member States will have before them a report of the Secretary-General on the status of implementation of JIU recommendations in the field of development co-operation (A/44/488).

Paragraph 4: "Also encourages the Joint Inspection Unit when drawing up future reports to limit where possible the narrative part and to expand the evaluative part therein, while offering recommendations for improvement that are both practical and feasible".

11. The Unit has already begun to comply, and believes that the reports issued since the approval of the resolution have benefited from its efforts in this connection.

Paragraph 6: "Requests the Joint Inspection Unit to consider a more selective approach in drawing up its work programme with a view to limiting the quantity and improving the quality of its reports".

12. This request guided the Inspectors as they met in the course of developing the work programme (A/44/129). By taking a more contemplative approach in the formulation of its work programme, the Unit has been able to limit the 1990-1991 nucleus, initially, to five studies as against a 1989-1990 nucleus of eight

studies. A similarly careful scrutiny will also be made of other proposals vying for inclusion in the official work programme for 1990.

Paragraph 7: "Invites the Joint Inspection Unit, taking into account its other responsibilities, to include in its proposed programme of work the provision of advice to participating organisations on their methods of internal evaluation and the undertaking of more ad hoc evaluations of programmes and activities, with due regard to programmatic aspects identified by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and taking fully into account the mandates of the organizations concerned".

13. The Unit recalls, in this connection, its views as expressed last year in paragraph 17 of its report. 2/ The Unit said then and continues to hold the view that the fulfilment of this objective can best be achieved through consultation with the participating organizations while the Unit's work programme is being developed. The Unit intends to continue to hold such annual consultations, supported by ad hoc discussions as warranted during the course of the year.

Paragraph 8: "Also invites the Joint Inspection Unit, in this respect, to give greater attention to management, budgetary and administrative issues, including those identified by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its reports on the administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency and by the Board of Auditors in its audit opinions and reports, as well as those areas of the United Nations system undergoing reform".

14. Although the issue was addressed, the Unit was unable to fulfill this objective in its totality in the short interval of time between approval of the resolution and preparation of the work programme. Nevertheless, the General Assembly's advice will of course be followed. The Unit would like to observe, in this connection, that management, budgetary and administrative issues currently account for some 60 per cent of the studies inscribed on the work programme.

Paragraph 10: "Requests the Joint Inspection Unit to recommend new procedures designed to encourage more detailed consideration of its reports by the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system".

15. Two conditions must always exist if reports are to have a good chance of being thoroughly considered by review and governing bodies. The first condition is that reports must be topical and of interest to Member States and to secretariats. As the Unit remarked previously, "wherever some form of self-interest exists, reports - even those of doubtful technical quality - are embraced". 3/ To meet that condition, the Unit will continue to strive for reports of professional quality as to clear purpose, objective analysis, cogent argumentation and precise result-oriented recommendations. Above all, the Unit plans to centre its reports around live issues. The second condition concerns the ability of review and governing bodies to find the time to consider JIU reports. This has not always been the case in the Main Committees of the General Assembly, or in the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, whose agendas are often crowded with important and time-related issues.

VII. FOLLOW-UP OF REPORTS

16. With reference to paragraph 10, the Unit cannot, herein, provide a comprehensive view of follow-up action taken by the United Nations and its affiliated bodies because the report of the Secretary-General was not yet finalized when the present annual report was prepared. The Unit is satisfied, however, that JIU participating organizations are all giving serious attention to the follow-up of the Unit's recommendations, in keeping with the decisions of their governing bodies.

VIII. CONSULTATIONS

17. Lines of communication remain open and fluid with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC), the Panel of External Auditors, the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions, and the management and audit services of secretariats. From them the Unit receives solid advice from time to time on general matters in the areas of budget, personnel, finance management and development co-operation, or on specific study-related issues.

IX. SUMMARIES OF JIU REPORTS AND NOTES

18. The summaries of the reports and notes issued by JIU from July 1988 to June 1989 appear below. The organisation to which each report was sent for action is also indicated.

A. A review of the use of equipment provided to technical co-operation projects in developing countries
(JIU/REP/88/2)

19. The report deals specifically with the use of equipment financed by the United Nations development system and provided to technical co-operation projects in developing countries. Two issues are addressed: (a) the contribution of the equipment towards solving, with maximum efficiency, problems identified in a particular environment and for which the project has been formulated; and (b) how efficiently expertise and technical competence are transferred to nationals of the countries assisted.

20. The report is based on the field observation of nine projects implemented by four United Nations specialized agencies (FAO, ITU, UNESCO and UNIDO) in two African countries (Ghana and Zaire). The main finding is that the use of such equipment, both during the life of the project and after completion of the assistance, gives rise to certain problems and reveals various shortcomings relating to (a) project formulation; (b) purchase and shipping of the equipment to the project; (c) training of local personnel; (d) standardization of equipment; (e) after-sales service and maintenance; and (f) final transfer of the equipment to the Government.

21. Part III of the report cites lessons to be drawn in the above areas, and recommendations are made with the aim of improving project formulation, the financial rules in use among the agencies, project budgets, the training component of technical assistance projects and the instruction manuals in use by the agencies.

22. The report was sent on 11 August 1988 to the executive heads of all participating organisations of JIU for action.

B. Representation of organizations of the United Nations system at conferences and meetings - Part A: the United Nations
(JIU/REP/88/3) (A/43/586)

23. Over the years, attendance at and participation in international conferences and meetings by United Nations officials as representatives of the Organization (i.e. representation) has been of great concern to the Organization, in terms of both efficiency and cost. The representational activity of the United Nations has also been the object of some criticism, by giving rise to inefficient control of various aspects, such as the number of representatives, length of attendance, activeness, usefulness and the costs involved, particularly in the light of current financial constraints.

24. The objectives of this study were to review the existing procedures and mechanisms related to United Nations representation at international conferences

and meetings, to examine the usefulness and effectiveness of the participation by staff members of the Secretariat and to recommend ways and means to increase its efficiency and reduce the costs involved. The report was intended to decrease unnecessary participation without prejudice to the quality of representation and the image of the Organization.

25. The report reviewed aspects of representational activities such as legal status, invitations, procedures and mechanisms for determining representation, participation in conferences and meetings, financial aspects, monitoring procedures and the possible use of new technology.

26. Specific procedures governing representation are outlined in the Secretary-General's bulletin ST/SGB/207/Rev.1, whereby the Representation Unit of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General authorizes and co-ordinates the overall representational activity of the United Nations.

27. One important aspect of representation is the handling of invitations, which was not always given thoughtful attention. Delay in receipt was one of the causes. Although an increase in the rejection of invitations in 1986 compared with 1985 shows some selectivity on the part of United Nations departments and offices, the procedures for handling invitations received and for the submission of requests for authorization should be streamlined.

28. Effective representation would require good co-operation, organization and control both at departmental level and by the Representation Unit. Although the departments and offices concerned play an important role in the handling of invitations, the attendance and number of participants, and the duration of attendance, their control has not been sufficiently tight. Similar findings applied to departmental preparations for participation in meetings, as well as to reporting on their participation therein. With some exceptions there was a general lack of specific instructions and guidelines on representation. In addition, evaluation, which should be their concern, was not given priority.

29. With regard to the costs involved in representation, the Inspector was not provided with precise statistics. While the strict control in the authorization process by the Representation Unit did generate some savings in travel expenses, the departments and offices concerned should attend more carefully to this matter. Additional efforts should be made to use liaison and field offices. Some inconsistencies were found in accounting practices, for which the relevant provisions of financial procedures should be properly implemented.

30. The report also gave some thought to the possible use of new technologies in representation, such as teleconferencing.

31. The report concluded that the strict observance of the relevant procedures would be essential to the effective and efficient representation of the Organization. The report recommended that:

(a) Departments and offices should observe strictly the provisions of ST/SGB/207/Rev.1;

(b) The Representation Unit of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General should be strengthened administratively in order to deal more efficiently with the revised procedures;

(c) Participation in conferences and meetings should be limited to one person;

(d) The duration of attendance at meetings should be kept to a minimum;

(e) Relevant rules and practices should be made uniform in the Organisation, and corrective and financial measures should be taken to implement them;

(f) Departments and offices should constantly review and evaluate overall representational activities;

(g) Services dealing with technical innovations should follow closely the development of new technologies such as teleconferencing, with a view to their introduction in the field of representation.

32. The report was sent on 25 August 1988 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and on 26 August 1988 to the other participating organisations of JIU for information.

C. Project RLA/86/002 - Support for the foreign services of
Latin America - mid-term evaluation (JIU/REP/88/4)
(A/43/627)

33. The report represents a mid-term evaluation of a large regional project in Latin America, the input of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) being \$1.6 million. On the basis of visits and interviews with senior foreign ministry officials and with seminar participants, the Inspectors formed the opinion that the present method of project execution is producing only a minor impact in relation to the amount already invested. They state that if the present method of project execution is not corrected, serious conflicts may arise.

34. One fundamental issue relates to the current thrust of the project, which is concerned with the study, analysis and discussion of the international political relations of the countries of the region (apart from international economic relations) and the constitutional competence of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) to serve as its executing agency. The Inspectors believe that the content lies outside ECLAC's competence and corresponds rather to private academic institutions or to the political agencies of Governments in the region. They further see the need for maximum involvement by participating Governments. In the light of the above, the Inspectors make three related recommendations: (a) a review of the project should be undertaken to bring the method of execution into line with the competence of the Commission; (b) the possibility and advisability of the maximum possible involvement by participating Governments should be investigated; and (c) a meeting should be convened between academics or institutes working with the respective foreign ministries to consider the establishment of a network of such institutions as well as direct execution methods.

35. Two further recommendations are made, which are related. In view of the expressed opinion that each foreign ministry has its own needs based on various factors, it is considered unlikely that such needs can be met with a regional project, and that a country approach would be best. Thus, with a view to fulfilling one of the major objectives of all development programmes, i.e. self-reliance, it is recommended that all country projects in support of the

foreign services should be executed by the respective Governments. In this connection, it is further recommended that if Governments decide to request a second phase, they should begin pre-programming activities with UNDP in good time.

36. The report was sent on 5 September 1988 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

D. Contribution of the United Nations system to the preservation and management of cultural and natural heritage in Western Asia (JIU/REP/88/5)

37. The report notes that, generally speaking, the co-operation extended by the organizations of the United Nations system to the countries of Western Asia fits into a cultural pattern that is in many respects proper to the region, and takes into consideration the abundance of archaeological sites, relics and art objects that should be conserved and preserved, which makes each country in the region virtually an archaeological site in itself.

38. The report notes also that this co-operation pays due attention to the fact that, climatically and geographically, the region has distinctive features such as the predominance of a dry climate and of broad desert or semi-desert expanses, features that make soil and water conservation programmes and activities vital.

39. However, according to the report, the activities for the conservation of the cultural and natural heritage carried out by the organizations of the United Nations system in the region need to be strengthened in four areas: strategy, institutions, training and financing. The report recommends, therefore, that the organizations of the United Nations system should consider the implementation of the following measures:

(a) To offer assistance in preparing long-term national strategies and medium- and short-term policies for the preservation of cultural and natural heritage, identifying objectives to be achieved, priorities to be observed, and human and financial resources to be mobilized. These strategies and policies should enable the beneficiary countries to concentrate on projects carefully selected so as to secure tangible results.

(b) To streamline and strengthen national institutions responsible for the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage. Efficient organization and strengthened resources, as well as greater decentralization of existing institutions, should be regarded as essential at this stage.

(c) To step up their efforts to train larger numbers of specialists in cultural and natural heritage conservation needed by the countries of Western Asia as a means of transferring know-how and technologies for preserving the natural and cultural heritage.

(d) To assign priority to those projects that are assured of self-financing and give preference to natural resources conservation projects, which would help to generate the economic wealth needed to finance other projects that are more important and more numerous.

40. The report was sent on 23 September 1988 to the executive heads of all participating organizations of JIU for action.

F. Evaluation of United Nations technical co-operation project evaluation systems - Parts I and II (JIU/REP/88/6)

41. As a management tool, evaluation has been introduced progressively in the United Nations over the past 15 years. While that may be too short a period to draw full conclusions concerning its usefulness, it is sufficient to cast a critical eye on its functioning. This prompted the Inspector to undertake a comprehensive reflection on:

(a) The concept, methods and practice of evaluation of national projects;

(b) The philosophy and content of the evaluation guidelines as well as the relationship between the evaluator and the evaluated;

(c) The similarities and the limitations and constraints of monitoring with regard to evaluation, and the relative importance of each of them as well as their respective fields of investigation;

(d) The current trend to involve recipient Governments and donor countries to a greater extent in the evaluation process;

(e) The institutional structures responsible for evaluation in the different agencies of the United Nations system.

42. As a result of his investigations, the Inspector came to the conclusion that:

(a) The rules and procedures are, in general, very well conceived and written, the result of many years of effort in which the Joint Inspection Unit participated actively. Agencies have co-operated very closely in a situation where there is no single evaluation system but several different ones.

(b) It is not the implementation or the functioning of the procedures that give rise to certain problems, shortcomings and weaknesses. These problems are both institutional and operational. Among others:

(i) The evaluation units in the different agencies are in general understaffed, have meagre resources and often do not hold a hierarchical position that is sufficiently recognized within the organization;

(ii) The different types of evaluation often lack objectivity, and how they are carried out depends on who undertakes the evaluation; often the evaluators are closely connected to the projects or agencies, a situation that does not guarantee sufficient independence;

(iii) Evaluation, as it is conducted now, operates at a level of abstraction that fails to consider the environment in which the project is being implemented. This is also true of the way projects are formulated.

(c) It is important to review the scale of priority between monitoring and evaluation. The Inspector proposes a number of measures to review procedures and structures in order to strengthen the monitoring of projects.

43. The report was sent on 2 November 1988 to the executive heads of all participating organizations of JIU for action.

F. Representation of organizations of the United Nations system at conferences and meetings - Part B: the specialized agencies (JIU/REP/88/7)

44. Representation by officials of specialized agencies, as opposed to representation by United Nations officials, has also come under criticism. After reviewing the United Nations in report JIU/REP/88/3, the Inspector also examined the related procedures, mechanisms and practices of representation at the specialized agencies with the same objectives and methodology. These two complementary reports cover the United Nations system as a whole.

45. Representational activities by organizations of the United Nations system are wide in scope and complex in nature, in that they vary in their specific mandate and nature of activities. There is a great diversity of administrative instructions, rules and guidelines governing representation, as well as a variety of procedures and mechanisms dealing with those activities. This made it difficult to ensure an efficient co-ordination of the procedures related to representation and additional efforts were required to establish and follow similar practices regarding certain important issues, such as invitations.

46. The manner in which the invitations were issued and processed in the organizations revealed deficiencies. The current practice of sending invitations directly to individual staff members, instead of addressing them to the executive heads of organizations, makes it difficult to ensure efficient co-ordination and timely decision-making on participation unless specific procedures are followed. Another problem was the increased number of invitations received late and the lack of background documents. Under these circumstances, it was difficult for the organizations to analyse invitations properly and assess correctly the interest of the organization in participating in the meeting. In accepting invitations with short notice, adequate substantive preparation for efficient participation would be quite impossible.

47. Several organizations had no internal rules at all on representation, which reflects their superficial and spontaneous management of representation.

48. One of the aspects specific to the specialized agencies was that the proposal for acceptance or refusal of an invitation and the approval of that proposal are usually handled by the same entities. It was considered necessary to separate these two levels in decision-making to increase objectivity and control.

49. Some organizations did not pay sufficient attention to their representatives' preparations to ensure successful participation in meetings. The lack of adequate substantive preparation leads to superficial participation, thereby resulting in inappropriate follow-up action.

50. While some organizations decreased participation in meetings in 1986 in comparison with 1985, others maintained the same level. This may imply that the organizations reached a "holding level" and relied increasingly on external financing for participation. The number of participants in international meetings had averaged more than one official, and attendance was mostly for the entire period of the meeting. The number of officials designated for representation and the duration of their stay could have been reduced without prejudice to the efficiency of their participation and to the activities of the organizations.

51. The report also observed that the lack of reports on representation hampered appropriate follow-up activity by the organizations, and that improving the efficiency of participation in conferences and meetings required the establishment of monitoring procedures in those organizations which usually did not make an analysis or assessment of their representational activities. Like document JIU/REP/88/3 (see para. 31), this report also gave some thought to the possible introduction of new technologies, such as teleconferencing.

52. The report made the following recommendations:

To the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination:

Ensuring the development of generally acceptable procedures requiring inter-agency co-ordination, in particular, on the issuance and processing of invitations and the regular and timely provision of background documents.

To the executive heads of specialized agencies:

(a) Strict application of rules and guidelines governing representation, where they exist;

(b) Establishment of relevant rules and guidelines, where they do not exist;

(c) Ensuring periodical reviews and evaluation of overall representation;

(d) Institutionalization of a two-level decision-making process on representation in respect of acceptance of invitations and the designation of representatives;

(e) Observing one-person representation at conferences and meetings and limiting the duration of attendance; and

(f) Following closely the development of technologies, with a view to their introduction in the field of representation (for instance, teleconferencing).

53. The report was sent on 16 November 1988 to the executive heads of the participating organizations of JIU for action and to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for information.

G. Note on removal costs (JIU/NOTE/88/1)

54. This brief note explores the possibility of meeting, at less cost to the United Nations, the expenses incurred for transportation of the household goods of staff members to and from their duty stations. Having reviewed a statistical sample of shipments upon the appointment, transfer and repatriation of staff, and having considered different costing options, the Inspector came to the conclusion that the present system could not be substantially improved upon with respect to the appointment of staff. He believes, however, that considerable savings could be achieved by giving staff members, upon separation or change of duty station, the option of taking an agreed lump sum in place of exercising their right under the existing staff regulation. The Inspector accordingly invites the United Nations administration to undertake a cost-benefit study that would investigate all aspects of removal costs in order to establish an alternative system.

55. The note was sent on 14 October 1988 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

H. Note on the administration of sick leave in the United Nations (JIU/NOTE/88/2)

56. In 1987, a JIU review of the administration of sick leave was requested by the Department of Administration and Management of the Secretariat. Concurrently, under the aegis of the Department, a Secretariat working group was examining current sick leave procedures. The goal of both efforts was to help establish guidelines that would contribute to a sound and uniform sick leave administration and would maximize the incidence of appropriate sick leave usage by staff members.

57. The Inspectors found that bureaucracies, public and private, including those of the United Nations system as a whole, have problems with the administration of sick leave and with its proper use. However, the degree of abuse of sick leave in the United Nations was not found by the Inspectors to be excessive in comparison with other United Nations agencies and certain national services. The Inspectors analysed the documentation and proposals made by the Secretariat's working group on sick leave and had intensive discussions with officials in administrative and substantive departments and offices, with the offices of medical services in New York and Geneva, as well as with certain individual staff members selected at random. On the basis of the conclusions drawn, which appear at the end of the note, the Inspectors recommended the following improvements in the administration of sick leave:

(a) Existing Staff Rules and Staff Regulations concerning sick leave should be strictly applied;

(b) Co-ordination in the administration of sick leave should be improved and the respective responsibilities of the substantive departments and offices, the medical services, and the United Nations staff should be more clearly delineated;

(c) Systematic and comprehensive statistics on sick leave, both certified and uncertified, should be maintained by a designated office or department of the United Nations Secretariat;

(d) Consideration should be given to modifying the Staff Rules and consequent administrative instructions to encourage prompt submission of medical certifications of illness.

58. The note was sent on 18 November 1988 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

I. Report on the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
(JIU/REP/89/1)

59. This report discusses ESCWA's role and capability in the discharge of its responsibility, both as a catalyst for economic and social development in Western Asia and as a stimulus to regional co-operation and development in the framework of South-South co-operation. The report also highlights the multidisciplinary work of the Commission and its secretariat as viewed by the various participants in the ESCWA theatre of operations. At the operational level, the report examines the impact of ESCWA's high vacancy rate on the implementation of the Commission's activities, noting its adverse effects. The report also recognizes the unsettling effect the several moves of ESCWA headquarters have had on the secretariat staff and their output.

60. Having examined all these issues, the Inspector has arrived at certain conclusions and recommendations, the major ones being as follows:

(a) Member States should, in reviewing the next medium-term plan of ESCWA, address the issues described in paragraph 51 of the report. They should also make greater use of the Commission's competence by having it undertake operational activities to be financed by them;

(b) The ESCWA secretariat should broaden and strengthen its relations with regional and subregional institutions, prepare and implement interdisciplinary projects, and make further attempts to encourage Governments to allow their personnel to serve with the secretariat;

(c) The Secretary-General should, in the context of the high vacancy rate, implement the directives of General Assembly resolution 39/243 of 18 December 1984 to recruit staff from any member State of the Commission, enforce staff regulation 1.2 with greater resolve and establish a systematic rotation of staff in order to minimize discrimination against staff stationed at hardship duty stations.

61. The report was sent on 29 March 1989 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

J. Evaluation of rural development activities of the United
Nations system in three African least developed countries
(Burkina Faso, Burundi, United Republic of Tanzania)
(JIU/REP/89/2)

62. Rural development activities have been a major concern of the United Nations since the early 1960s. In 1974, the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination

initiated an effort intended to lead to better co-ordination and effective rural development assistance programmes through the mechanism of the Committee's Force on Rural Development. One of the main United Nations system policy guidelines on rural development is contained in the Declaration of Principles and Programmes of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development and endorsed by General Assembly resolution 34/14 of 9 November 1979. The resolution calls upon the United Nations system to assist Governments in a broad range of activities for the benefit of rural people. Over the last 25 years, considerable resources have been channelled by the United Nations system towards improving the daily lives of hundreds of millions of people who live in poverty in the rural areas of the third world.

63. The primary purpose of the report is to examine to what extent United Nations system rural development activities are addressed to the poorest section of the population in least developed countries and are actually fostering socio-economic changes at the grass-roots level. Another purpose is to determine to what extent beneficiaries are involved in the identification, planning and implementation of project activities.

64. A sample of 25 rural development projects in three African least developed countries, Burkina Faso, Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania, which are somewhat representative of distinct cultural, linguistic and geographic areas, were analysed and issued as an annex to the main report. During the process of the study, the Inspectors held discussions with United Nations agencies both at headquarters and at country level. They have met and discussed issues with government officials at the central, regional and local village levels, as well as with donors from outside the United Nations system.

65. The report draws a comprehensive picture of rural development activities within the United Nations system and acknowledges that rural development and socio-economic change at the grass-roots level are painstakingly slow processes. Following an analysis of those processes and of the consultations held, the report raises basic questions, such as whether its traditional "top-down" project approach (expert - counterpart - equipment) works effectively to the benefit of the population at the grass-roots level and whether United Nations system rural development activities encourage self-reliance at the local level or lead to increased dependency.

66. The findings revealed that inadequately thought-out or improperly executed technical co-operation projects may have perverse effects and/or create additional dependency. Various instances of technical co-operation projects not really suited to or adaptable at the grass-roots level have been recorded. Conversely, the report concluded that the few truly successful grass-roots activities that were identified were not projects of the traditional mould. Nearly all the activities were "top-down" rather than "bottom-up". The report stresses that projects or activities that are deeply rooted in local realities and that correspond to the values and aspirations of the beneficiaries give better results than projects parachuted from above, if not immediately, certainly in the long term. In most cases, the findings indicate that the expert/counterpart relationship often breeds dependency rather than self-reliance. In most cases, projects were being run by international project personnel through a project management unit not directly integrated into a government structure, a situation that did not augur well for the phasing out of external technical assistance and the enhancement of national or local capability.

67. Based on the lessons learned from the study, the report suggests that, if there is a strong policy commitment of United Nations system organizations to devoting at least some resources to meeting the needs of the poorest segment of the population, the institutional consequences of a firm policy in this direction need to be considered. The validity of the project approach for rural development activities addressed to the poorest of the poor at the grass-roots level needs serious consideration.

68. The Inspectors state that project aid in the United Nations system:

- "- Responds to a logic in which there is a pressure to 'get things going' and consequently to spend too much too fast (and to expect too much too soon);
- "- Encourages ambitious drafting of project documents, inter alia, because of competition among donors for 'good' projects; this in turn leads to unrealistic expectations;
- "- Often leads to a breakdown of structures at the receiving end, especially in LDCs where the absorption capacity of Governments is weak and the number of projects and of competing donors is high;
- "- Is likely to create dependency in many ways, not least because of the expert/counterpart relationship, which does not necessarily encourage the 'transfer of responsibility' even where the transfer of knowledge may take place;
- "- Tends to concentrate on the provision of inputs and production of outputs and to neglect what will happen after the end of the project and does not put a bonus on building into new projects the lessons learnt from the mistakes of the past."

69. The report's recommendations centre mainly on the need for United Nations system agencies to reconsider rural development policies, and the need for a better definition of the beneficiaries of rural development activities and differentiation between rural development activities at the grass-roots level and normal or traditional technical co-operation activities. The report also recommends that in order to maximize the chances of success of rural development activities, realistic planning and programming instruments must be used and more ex post facto evaluations should be conducted in order to add to the knowledge of the impact and sustainability of rural development projects.

70. The report was sent on 6 April 1989 to the executive heads of the United Nations, UNDP, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), FAO, the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNESCO, UNIDO and the World Food Programme (WFP), for action, and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

K. An evaluative assessment of the technical co-operation activities of the International Maritime Organization in relation to maritime training (JIU/REP/89/3)

71. During the past 20 to 30 years, international shipping has changed more than in any other period in history. A great deal of its success and safety depends on

international co-operation among maritime administrations and on well-trained maritime officials in all countries. IMO has sought to aid this process through international treaties and other actions, in particular the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, which came into force in 1984, and a Strategy for Maritime Training issued in 1988. The Inspectors assessed this IMO maritime training programme at the request of the Secretary-General of IMO.

72. IMO technical co-operation expenditures have grown from \$3 million to \$14 million annually in the last decade, with a substantial shift away from UNDP funding towards funding from a few bilateral donors, from national towards regional projects, and from traditional projects using experts towards other modes of assistance. A review of 30 projects and other activities indicated that IMO resources and advisers have been stretched very thinly among the 81 national maritime training centres that IMO has assisted world-wide, although the projects were generally progressing satisfactorily. More broadly, IMO has moved in significant new directions during the 1980s, expanding its internal evaluation activities, promoting and implementing technical co-operation among developing countries, and helping establish regional networks of training institutions.

73. The World Maritime University at Malmö, Sweden, opened in 1983 to provide two-year Master of Science courses for senior maritime officials, has made remarkable rapid progress as a unique world university in the development assistance field. A series of reviews and evaluations demonstrate that the University is producing a steady stream of graduates who are working on meaningful new maritime assignments. Efforts are still needed to further upgrade student selection, smooth out course content and adjust to constantly changing training needs. However, the University's considerable success thus far is strongly supported by the coherent global training framework based on the International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, the maturity and strong motivation of the students and the interaction between the international maritime community and the training process. However, action is still needed to establish stable, longer-term financial support.

74. In 1985, IMO established a major project to develop some 60 short-term model courses to help implement the Convention world-wide. The design phase of the project is now nearing completion, and attention is shifting to testing and implementing the new courses. Ten national and regional training centres have been designated as University branches to teach the courses, along with a new academy in Italy and a new institute in Malta to teach maritime law. Implementing the new courses will be a challenging task over the next few years, but it is one of considerable importance for future international shipping. The process will require careful attention and quality control, as well as new financial commitments.

75. World-wide maritime training programmes are conducted not only by IMO but by the ILO and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) as well. Past efforts at programme co-ordination have not proved very successful, but there is a strong present need to strengthen inter-agency co-operation in maritime training, since all three programmes have expanded considerably during the 1980s; each agency has gained hard-earned and useful experience; overlapping, duplication and confusion need to be avoided; and the complexity of modern shipping is steadily increasing. Similarly, the many new IMO maritime training initiatives indicate that IMO should recast the operating responsibilities within its Technical Co-operation Division, so that the staff can better follow up and adjust the new

maritime training strategy, oversee the new global training structure, enhance co-operative relationships world-wide, and keep up with the many technical changes taking place.

76. The Inspectors conclude that IMO has moved very rapidly in the 1980s to reshape its former set of thinly stretched individual projects and services into a new, well-structured global framework of maritime training activities based on the Convention. The need now is to refine and strengthen this global framework. The Inspectors recommend that IMO take four courses of action to promote this process: (a) consolidate the present initiatives rather than add new ones; (b) more closely assess and consult on the most urgent maritime training needs to encourage expansion and diversification of donor funding; (c) establish an IMO-ILO-UNCTAD inter-agency contact committee for maritime training matters; and (d) assign focal point responsibilities for key maritime training and technical co-operation areas to specific IMO staff members.

77. The report was sent on 31 March 1989 to the Secretary-General of IMO for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

L. Evaluation of regional project RLA/79/031, Programme on Joint Studies on Latin American Economic Integration (JIU/REP/89/4)

78. The report provides the results of an evaluation undertaken some time after completion of the subject project, the objectives of which included the creation in Latin America of a community of research workers in the applied social sciences; publicizing the research results of three main research programmes; and training economists and social scientists in applied socio-economic research concerned mainly with social and economic integration and development. Evaluations carried out during the life of the project found that the Programme on Joint Studies on Latin American Economic Integration had been successful in setting up a network of economic and social research institutions and in co-ordinating, promoting and facilitating technical exchanges as a means of transmitting knowledge, that the research had been of a high technical level and that the Programme had established quite an efficient way of working, which had enabled institutions at a less advanced technical level to benefit from the Programme's services through contacts with more advanced institutions.

79. The Inspector's own survey on the Programme elicited the following opinions:

(a) The Programme contributed an appreciable cultural contribution to Latin America and should continue to be supported;

(b) It should modernize its structure;

(c) Its work programme should be related to the process of Latin American integration;

(d) Priority should be given to studies on social integration.

80. The Inspector supports these views and recognizes also the problem of the Programme's continued financing. In summing up, the Inspector recommends that UNDP should finance an assembly of representatives of the member institutions to consider: (a) the continued existence of the Programme; (b) the simplification and

modernisation of its structure; and (c) reorientation of its work programmes and changes in its types of publication.

81. The report was sent on 26 April 1989 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

**M. Review of the United Nations public information networks:
reorganisation of the Department of Public Information
(JIU/REP/89/5)**

82. The preparation of this report was undertaken in the light of recommendation 37 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 4/ which called for a "thorough review of the functions and working methods as well as of the policies of the Department of Public Information".

83. The aim of the study was, therefore, to analyse the overall administrative and management structure of the Department, and to look at the problem of the adjustment between the information circulated inside the Organization and the information as treated and dispatched to the public outside.

84. The Inspector was able to undertake a thorough review of the current structure and shed light on such institutional inconsistencies as the ambiguous situation of the Director of the Division for Committee Liaison and Administrative Service and the Bureau of Programme Operations, and the downgrading of the liaison function with the committees. The report concludes that the reorganization undertaken in the Department of Public Information has in fact resulted, in some instances, in the creation of superfluous levels of management and in the displacement and dispersion or consolidation of functions and powers in a somewhat arbitrary way. In that respect, the reform has contributed very little to an efficient administrative machine.

85. Recommendations 1 to 4 of the report were offered as a detailed reorganization chart to help rationalize the structure of the Department. These recommendations include, among others, the dismantling of the Division for Committee Liaison and Administrative Service and the Bureau of Programme Operations, the reallocation of resources thus made available among other units, the creation of a separate administrative and financial unit, the relocation of the Evaluation Unit and the clarification of the role of the deputy spokesperson for the Secretary-General. The strengthening of the liaison function of the Joint United Nations Information Committee was stressed and proposals were made for the reorganization of the Communication and Project Management Service in order to make its machinery more productive, as well as for that of the Dissemination Division.

86. As regards policy, the main contribution of the report was to define and clearly distinguish between the two concepts of priority issues and fundamental issues, and to determine how information concerning each of them should be treated and by whom, given the specificities of the different bodies and organizations dealing with these issues in the United Nations. Finally, it was proposed that the responsibilities and relationship between Development Forum, published by the Department of Public Information and the more recent UNDP publication, World Development, be clarified.

87. The report was sent on 30 June 1989 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

N. Review of the United Nations public information networks:
United Nations information centres (JIU/REP/89/6)

88. Following completion of the report dealing with the reorganization of the Department of Public Information (JIU/REP/89/5), this report was undertaken to review specifically the functioning of the network of United Nations information centres, since they constitute an important part of the structure of the Department of Public Information. Another objective was to assess the possibility of assigning new responsibilities to the information centres and streamlining their developmental role in the countries where they are located.

89. The report was articulated around three main issues, which are outlined below.

90. Firstly, there is the wide variety of contexts in which the information centres operate. The diversity of administrative systems and disparities in physical and media facilities, which in turn depend on many social, economic and cultural factors, and the solidity and density of the media networks in the host country would require each centre to define a specific local policy and strategy in order to deliver the United Nations message in optimal conditions. The content of the message itself would have to be carefully tailored to local interests, the level of literacy and the sensitivity of the population.

91. Secondly, there is what the Inspector sees as the disproportion between means and ends. In the course of his investigation, the Inspector observed the gap between the ambitious goals and extensive tasks assigned to the information centres and their chronic inadequacy of resources.

92. Thirdly, the Inspector touches upon the problem of the location of the centres, suggesting how their relocation could contribute to better co-ordination with other United Nations bodies in the field.

93. On all the issues, recommendations are offered to help improve the functioning of the information centres and how they deliver the United Nations message to the countries. Some of those recommendations involve the promotion of media production according to the type of audience, increased involvement of United Nations associations, UNESCO clubs and non-governmental organizations on an experimental basis in the dissemination of information, redrawing the map of the United Nations information centres according to evolving national and regional contexts, and improving their operation and management, organizing more closely co-operation between the Department of Public Information and UNDP in the field.

94. The report was sent on 9 June 1989 to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for action and to the other participating organizations of JIU for information.

O. Concluding report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 32/197 concerning the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (JIU/REP/89/7)

95. Five years after the adoption of General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations, the Joint Inspection Unit prepared a series of reports reviewing the extent to which the recommendations contained in that resolution had been put into action and proposing corrective measures to the Assembly. In all, seven reports have been compiled and submitted to the Assembly, together with the comments of the Secretary-General. These reports deal with matters relating to the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, Secretariat support services, the Economic and Social Council and two regional economic commissions.

96. The present concluding report is the last in this series and updates the recommendations presented in earlier reports in the light of the changes that have occurred in recent years. A special effort has been made to avoid any duplication of the content of reports being prepared by bodies other than JIU for submission to the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly. The report does take into account the recommendations of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations, 4/ and the conclusions of the Special Commission on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields of the Economic and Social Council.

97. The report concentrates basically on the central mechanisms of the United Nations system in the economic and social sectors, namely, (a) the Economic and Social Council as a central intergovernmental policy-making and decision-making body, and (b) the Secretariat support services responsible for implementing these policies and decisions.

98. Dealing with the Council, the report notes that it continues to be the highest central body in the United Nations for the consideration of international economic, social and humanitarian questions and the formulation under the authority of the General Assembly of coherent general system-wide policies. It is in the course of the general debate that the Council endeavours to articulate such policies. However, the fact that the Council regularly has too many issues before it, together with the over-descriptive nature of the documentation provided, means that the general debate seldom leads to the adoption of recommendations.

99. The report, therefore, recommends that, notwithstanding any changes in the Council's functions, powers or membership as a result, for example, of its Special Commission's recommendations, the Council should proceed with the rapid implementation of the recommendations contained in its resolution 1988/77 and, in particular, (a) allocate not more than three days to its general debate (instead of five as at present), thus paving the way for shorter sessions; (b) reduce the documentation submitted for its general debate, by limiting it to matters central to its debate and discarding any document duplicating another or containing no essential analysis or information; and (c) identify a number of major items and urgent questions requiring decisions by the Council.

100. The report notes also that it is a heavy responsibility for the Economic and Social Council to be entrusted with co-ordinating the activities of the organizations of the whole of the United Nations system in the economic, social and humanitarian fields. The numerous studies entrusted by the Council to the Secretary-General, to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to the Special Commission and to other expert and advisory groups, as well as the many resolutions and decisions on co-ordination adopted each year by the Council, give an idea of the difficulties involved in discharging its responsibility.

101. The report recommends that, notwithstanding the proposals that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination will make to the Council in 1989, the Council must endeavour to achieve the following objectives:

(a) The Council should consider streamlining its debates on co-ordination by, inter alia, a concentration and better preparation of documentation. The study of a limited number of co-ordination problems encountered by the agencies and the United Nations would lighten the Council's burden appreciably and increase its effectiveness;

(b) The Council should make greater use of the existing formal and informal co-ordination mechanisms. At the system-wide level, the Council should make greater use of the Director-General. At the agency secretariat level, full use should be made of informal consultations between senior officials responsible for policies, programmes and substantive activities. In the field, greater use should be made of resident co-ordinators and resident representatives;

(c) The Council should ensure that mechanisms of co-ordination remain highly flexible so as to enable the system to cope with emergencies.

102. With regard to the economic and social sectors of the Secretariat, the report concludes that a major step could be made towards a rational and efficient division of labour, with less overlapping and minimal duplication and waste of energy and resources, by redeploying certain services while maintaining the present secretariat support structure for economic and social activities. The guiding principle for such a streamlining would be a division of labour based on:

(a) clustering together sectoral activities in distinct entities; (b) providing each of these entities with all the necessary facilities for them to function effectively; and (c) assigning the overall functions of programming, budgeting, evaluation and co-ordination at the Secretariat or system-wide level to independent entities.

103. The report recommends in this respect that, apart from the changes that are to take place in the existing structure of the Secretariat by 1990, pursuant to the recommendations made by the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations and on which the Secretary-General will report to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly may request the Secretary-General to take the recommendations of resolution 32/197 into account in the ongoing process of reorganizing the economic and social sectors of the Secretariat. The Secretary-General should, in particular, ensure that the new structure now being developed makes it possible to: (a) achieve a more operational division of labour between the Department of International, Economic and Social Affairs, the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the Centre for Social

Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations Office at Vienna and based on the clustering together of distinct sectors in each of these entities; and (b) assign to each of these entities all the necessary facilities for the effective performance of its functions.

104. Concerning the role of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation, the report concludes that the Director-General can exercise the functions assigned to him by resolution 32/197 fully and efficiently only if his responsibilities within the organizations of the system and within the Secretariat entities are clearly defined together with the Secretary-General and the heads of those organizations and entities. Furthermore, the Director-General's functions and the procedures for their implementation would be rendered much more effective if they were formalized.

105. The report therefore recommends that, in order to enable the Director-General, under the authority of the Secretary-General, to carry out the responsibilities assigned to him by resolution 32/197, in particular the duty of ensuring the provision of effective leadership to the various components of the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic co-operation, the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the system should identify the fields to which these responsibilities are to apply and determine the machinery for carrying them out.

106. The report recommends also that the functions of the Director-General and the procedures for their implementation should be clarified and formalized. For this purpose, (a) the Secretary-General should issue a bulletin containing the terms of reference of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation and of his Offices; (b) the Secretary-General should arrange for the United Nations Organizational Manual to be revised to include a section concerning the Director-General and his Office and to enable consequential changes to be made in the other sections; (c) the Director-General should prepare an annual plan of work indicating the priority activities he is to undertake and the contributions he anticipates from other entities; (d) the medium-term plan should include a programme concerning the Director-General; and (e) the programme budget should identify the outputs of the Office of the Director-General.

107. The report was sent on 3 July 1989 to the executive heads of all participating organizations of JIU for action.

P. Practices and procedures aimed at a more equitable geographical distribution of sources of procurement for technical co-operation projects (JIU/REP/89/8)

108. The General Assembly of the United Nations and the Governing Council of UNDP have for some time urged executing agencies to shift away from traditional procurement sources (the developed countries) to the developing countries, and to those major donor countries which are perceived as not having a share of purchases commensurate with their overall contribution to programmes.

109. This report summarizes the background to the problem, reviews the efforts being made by the agencies, suggests priority areas for attention and makes recommendations aimed at achieving both short-term and long-term solutions to the problem.

110. The United Nations system has done much to improve procurement from developing countries and under-utilized major donor countries, through, for example, increased decentralization of purchasing responsibility to the field, holding information and training meetings and seminars potential suppliers and exchanging information on rules and procedures. In addition, the Inspector recognizes and supports the major efforts being made by the United Nations system in identifying new supply sources and products. He views this, however, as a longer-term solution and believes that more immediate results could be obtained if current procurement data are exploited fully. Accordingly, he recommends that a number of common-use products be selected immediately for target purchasing. The Inspector also concludes, since developing countries and international project personnel are said to have a bias towards goods and services produced in the developed countries, that greater attention should be devoted to overcoming this tendency. UNDP and its executing agencies are encouraged, therefore, to develop a joint strategy to alter the attitudes of Governments and international project personnel at Headquarters and in the field in this respect.

111. A third major recommendation is addressed to the General Assembly and to the UNDP Governing Council, suggesting the establishment of specific procurement targets for both the developing and the under-utilized major donor countries. The system, which now operates without any specific goal in sight, requires one in the view of the Inspector.

112. The report was sent on 6 July 1989 to the executive heads of all participating organizations of JIU for action.

Notes

1/ The reports of previous years were distributed by the Secretary-General as the following documents: A/C.5/1241; A/C.5/1304; A/C.5/1368; A/C.5/1433; A/C.5/1515; A/C.5/1598; A/C.5/1676; A/C.5/31/1; A/C.5/32/6; A/C.5/33/5; A/C.5/34/1; Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/35/34); Ibid., Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/36/34); Ibid., Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/37/34); Ibid., Thirty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/38/34); Ibid., Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/39/34); Ibid., Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/40/34); Ibid., Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/41/34); Ibid., Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/42/34); and Ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/43/34).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/43/34).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/42/34), para. 27.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49 (A/41/49).

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