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Forty-fourth session  
FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 124

### PROGRAMME PLANNING

#### Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman following informal consultations

#### Programme planning

#### The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 31/93 of 14 December 1976, 32/197 of 20 December 1977, 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 42/215 of 21 December 1987 and 43/219 of 21 December 1988,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976, 1988/77 of 29 July 1988, 1939/97 of 26 July 1989, 1989/109 of 27 July 1989 and 1939/114 of 28 July 1989,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-ninth session 1/ and the relevant parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 1989, 2/

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 3/

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16).

2/ Ibid., Supplement No. 3 (A/44/3).

3/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7).

Having further considered the reports of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget, 4/ on statements of programme budget implications, 5/ and on monitoring, evaluation and management information, 6/

Reiterating the importance of an appropriate consultation procedure among functional, sectoral and regional bodies on the planning, programming and budgeting process,

Reiterating also the importance of priority-setting as an integral part of the planning, programming and budgeting process,

Emphasizing the importance of a reliable methodology for monitoring programme performance,

Stressing the importance of evaluation for the systematic and objective determination of the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact of programmes and activities in relation to their objectives,

Recognizing that co-ordination should aim at greater compatibility and mutual complementarity of the activities and programmes of the United Nations system,

Recognizing also the co-ordinating role of the Economic and Social Council in the economic and social sectors,

Reaffirming the importance of the programming and co-ordinating functions carried out by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and co-ordination,

Noting the co-ordinating role of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination at the secretariat level,

Reaffirming in this regard the role of the Secretary-General of the United Nations as the Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination in co-ordinating the activities of the United Nations system,

Taking into account the comments and observations made in the Fifth Committee on programme planning,

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4/ A/44/272.

5/ A/44/234.

6/ A/44/233.

I

Role of intergovernmental bodies

1. Approves the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the consultation procedure for the preparation of the programme budget; 7/
2. Takes note of the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the extent of involvement of specialized bodies in the planning and programming process; 8/
3. Invites the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Committee on Conferences to take appropriate action, within their respective mandates, with a view to assisting the functional, sectoral and regional bodies to play a more effective role in the planning, programming and budgeting process in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
4. Also invites the functional, sectoral and regional intergovernmental bodies to consider in a timely manner the draft medium-term plan and programme budget proposals within their areas of responsibility, in order that their recommendations may be taken into account by the Secretary-General when preparing his proposed medium-term plan and programme budget;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the necessary advice to the organs and bodies mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above in order to enable them effectively to carry out the tasks herein entrusted to them;

II

Priorities

1. Approves the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on priority-setting; 9/
2. Takes note of the relevant comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 10/

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16), para. 48.

8/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7), paras. 69-72.

9/ Ibid., Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16), paras. 271-275.

10/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7), paras. 92-97.

3. **Requests** all relevant entities and bodies to continue to make every effort to set and apply priorities in accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation; 11/

4. **Requests** the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to complete at its thirtieth session its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on all aspects of priority-setting in future outlines of the proposed programme budget, 4/ including the relationship between priorities and extrabudgetary resources and taking into account the pertinent observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraph 85 of its report, and to make recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

### III

#### Programme performance monitoring

1. **Requests** the Secretary-General to continue to improve the methodology for monitoring and reporting on programme performance in order to enhance the meaningful determination of implementation rates and comparison between actual delivery of final output and commitments set out in the programme narratives of the approved programme budget;

2. **Also requests** the Secretary-General to develop a methodology for the harmonization of programme performance and budget performance reporting;

### IV

#### Evaluation

1. **Approves** the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on evaluation; 12/

2. **Welcomes** the efforts made by the Secretariat to refine the methodology for evaluation, stresses the need for further improvements, and urges the Secretariat to adopt a more qualitative approach in its evaluation analyses wherever justified by programmatic considerations;

3. **Stresses** the importance of self-evaluation in relation to the preparation and implementation of the medium-term plan and of the programmatic content of the programme budget;

11/ ST/SCB.PPBMG Rules/1 (1987).

12/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/44/16), paras. 268, 288-290, 292-297, 299-307, 314 and 316-320.

4. **Renews its request contained in its resolution 43/219 that programme performance and evaluation reports, together with the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination thereon, as endorsed by the General Assembly, should be submitted to the relevant intergovernmental and expert bodies to ensure follow-up action;**

## V

## Co-ordination questions

1. **Approves the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination relating to co-ordination contained in section IV of its report; 13/**

2. **Requests the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination substantially to modify the format and content of its annual overview report in accordance with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;**

3. **Invites the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to improve their consideration of the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, in accordance with their respective mandates;**

4. **Requests the Secretary-General to present the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to the thirtieth session of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and to the Economic and Social Council in 1990 and subsequently to make it available to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session together with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of those bodies on that report in accordance with existing practice;**

5. **Invites the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, at their next joint meeting in 1990 to discuss in a thorough manner all measures for improving the efficacy of the joint meetings, including their structure and level of participation;**

## VI

## Implementation

**Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of all aspects of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation; 11/**

13/ Ibid., paras. 325-331, 333, 335-34 , 344-352, 357-361 and 364-368.

VII

Other conclusions and recommendations

Approves those conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination at its twenty-ninth session 1/ that have not otherwise been approved by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session.

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