

programmes will be considered only after specific approval of the General Assembly;

9. *Reaffirms* its resolution 3534 (XXX) and stresses the responsibility of the Secretary-General to draw to the attention of the competent intergovernmental bodies activities that are obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective, indicating the resources which could be released so that the bodies concerned may take the necessary action;

10. *Decides* that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination shall function as the main subsidiary organ of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for planning, programming and co-ordination and approves the consolidated terms of reference as set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX);

11. *Instructs* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in particular:

(a) To review in depth, on a selective basis, the major programmes of the plan and to recommend any necessary amendments to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

(b) To determine which programmes, subprogrammes or programme elements are obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective and to recommend, as appropriate, their curtailment or termination;

(c) To assess the degree of substantive co-ordination of selected programmes within the United Nations system and to recommend the appropriate action thereon;

12. *Further decides* that, in order to encourage Member States to be represented at a high level of expertise and to ensure the continuity of their representation in the body whose central role and over-all responsibilities are recognized, the Organization shall bear from 1978 onwards, for an experimental period and subject to review by the General Assembly at its thirty-fourth session, as a special exception to the basic principles set out in paragraph 2 of Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962 concerning the payment out of United Nations funds of travel and subsistence expenses to members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations, the travel (on the basis of economy class) and subsistence expenses (at standard rates applicable to officials of the Secretariat plus 15 per cent) of one representative of each Member State on the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination.

*98th plenary meeting
14 December 1976*

31/94. Administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency

A

The General Assembly,

Having considered with appreciation the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions relating to administrative and budgetary co-ordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy

Agency⁵⁰ and to co-ordination questions in the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme,⁵¹

Concerned with the growing need for effective administrative and budgetary co-ordination within the framework of the United Nations system,

1. *Concurs* with the observations and comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in the above-mentioned reports;

2. *Refers* to the organizations concerned the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its reports and brings the report on co-ordination questions in the activities of the United Nations Environment Programme⁵¹ specifically to the attention of the Governing Council of the Programme;

3. *Refers* the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on co-ordination questions⁵¹ to the Committee on Programme and Co-ordination in connexion with the decision of that Committee to consider in depth environment programmes at its seventeenth session in 1977;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to refer to the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system, through the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, matters arising out of the above-mentioned reports and the related discussion in the Fifth Committee which call for their attention and necessary action, in particular the question of rotation of staff;

5. *Transmits* those reports to the Board of Auditors, to the members of the Panel of External Auditors and to the Joint Inspection Unit for their information;

6. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to continue to supplement, as appropriate, the annual reports on administrative and budgetary co-ordination with reports on specific problems, taking into account the suggestions made in this respect during the discussions in the Fifth Committee.

*98th plenary meeting
14 December 1976*

B

The General Assembly,

Considering the rapidly expanding applications of electronic data processing techniques to information systems and data banks throughout the United Nations system, their potential value in accelerating the implementation and co-ordination of important programmes, particularly in the field of economic and social development, and the importance of ensuring efficient use of available resources,

1. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to provide policy advice and recommendations on the administrative co-ordination of electronic data processing and information systems in the United Nations organizations; in carrying out this task, the Advisory Committee should identify and focus on major issues that will help to increase the benefit from the expanding applications of elec-

⁵⁰ A/31/233 and Add.1.

⁵¹ A/31/227.

tronic data processing and information systems, and should also examine methods and criteria for:

- (a) Assessing the utility of existing and proposed information systems;
- (b) Co-ordinating and harmonizing existing and planned information systems;
- (c) Estimating costs for establishing and operating the systems;
- (d) Considering any other administrative co-ordination issues, including policies concerning acquisition and utilization of computer hardware, that, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee or the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, require the consideration of Member States;

2. *Requests* the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to assist in that task by providing, as required, the services and assistance of the Inter-Organization Board for Information Systems and Related Activities.

*98th plenary meeting
14 December 1976*

C

The General Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General⁵² on the review of action taken on the recommendations of the Administrative Management Service and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵³

Convinced that an effective and continuing management improvement programme is essential for the efficient and economical functioning of the Organization and that this, in turn, requires a competent central internal machinery endowed with the necessary mandate and the maximum support of the Secretary-General,

Noting the view of the Secretary-General that, while "an acceptable degree of success"⁵⁴ has been achieved in implementing the past recommendations of the Administrative Management Service, further measures are needed throughout the Secretariat for securing better results from management improvement efforts,

Noting also the statement made by the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management before the Fifth Committee on this matter, in particular paragraph 17 of the summary record containing that statement,⁵⁵

Agreeing with the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions as contained in paragraphs 12 to 19 of its report, particularly those in paragraph 14,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To put into effect promptly the measures mentioned in paragraph 67 of his report;⁵²

(b) To strengthen the existing role and functions of the Administrative Management Service by:

- (i) Authorizing the Service to identify management problems or areas requiring management improvement and to examine and report thereon with specific recommendations as to action required;
- (ii) Reviewing the reports and recommendations when received and by taking the necessary steps to ensure the prompt and effective implementation by the offices or departments concerned of those recommendations which he has approved;
- (iii) Empowering the Service to monitor and, whenever necessary, assist in the implementation of recommendations which he has approved;
- (iv) Calling upon the offices or departments responsible to report at six-monthly intervals on the progress being made in implementing the approved recommendations, together with any problems and difficulties encountered in the process;

(c) To inform all staff of the Secretariat of the revised role and functions of the Administrative Management Service and of his strongest support for the Service, and to call upon them to extend to it full co-operation and assistance;

(d) To give special attention to the matter of staffing of the Administrative Management Service so as to ensure that the Service is staffed at all times by individuals possessing the highest degree of technical competence;

(e) To submit annually to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions a report in summary form on the management improvement projects and other advisory services rendered by the Administrative Management Service during the preceding twelve months; such reports should also include:

- (i) A complete list of all reports and recommendations made by the Administrative Management Service during the year, with an indication of the recommendations, or parts thereof, not approved by the Secretary-General;
- (ii) A summary of the progress reports submitted during the past year in accordance with subparagraph (b) (iv) above, together with an evaluation by the Secretary-General of the benefits derived to date or expected to be derived in the future from the implementation of the approved recommendations dealt with in these reports;

(f) To ensure that the programme budget proposals, beginning with those for the biennium 1978-1979, reflect all the benefits derived from the management improvement efforts referred to in subparagraph (e) (ii) above;

(g) To report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the results obtained through the application of the measures mentioned in paragraph 67 of his report⁵² and the procedure set out in the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions:

(a) To draw the attention of the General Assembly to any situation or problem requiring its attention which

⁵² A/C.5/31/6.

⁵³ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/31/8 and Add.1-26), document A/31/8/Add.5.*

⁵⁴ A/C.5/31/6, para. 64.

⁵⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Fifth Committee, 24th meeting; and ibid., Fifth Committee, Sessional Fascicle, corrigendum.*

may arise from the annual reports mentioned in paragraph 1 (e) above;

(b) To submit its views and recommendations on the report of the Secretary-General requested in paragraph 1 (g) above;

3. *Decides* to review, at its thirty-third session, the question of administrative and management control of the United Nations, on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General requested in paragraph 1 (g) above and the views and recommendations submitted thereon by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

98th plenary meeting
14 December 1976

31/95. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 582 (VI) of 21 December 1951, 665 (VII) of 5 December 1952, 1927 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963, 2118 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2961 C (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 and 3062 (XXVIII) of 9 November 1973 relating to the additional recognition to be given to the low *per capita* income countries in calculating their rates of assessment in view of their economic and financial problems,

Recalling that the capacity to pay of the countries recognized by the United Nations as the least developed among the developing countries and those most seriously affected is being adversely affected, *inter alia*, by inflation and currency instability,

Recognizing the need for reconsideration of the scale of assessments of the least developed countries and those most seriously affected in order to help them meet their priorities at home and to allow the adjustment necessary for these countries,

Believing that the existing arrangement of assessment at the floor level is incompatible with the principle of capacity to pay,

Believing also that the collective financial responsibility implies that all Member States pay at least a minimum percentage of the expenses of the Organization,

1. *Reaffirms* that the capacity of Member States to contribute towards the payment of the budgetary expenses of the United Nations is the fundamental criterion on which scales of assessment are based;

2. *Decides* to lower the floor for purposes of formulating and establishing the rates of assessment;

3. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to reflect this decision in formulating the coming scale of assessments in so far as purely practical and technical limitations in calculating permit, which should be understood to mean a minimum payment of no less than 0.01 per cent of the total expenses of the Organization;

4. *Also requests* the Committee on Contributions to study urgently and in depth ways and means of increasing the fairness and equity of the scale of assess-

ments in the light of views expressed by Member States at the thirty-first session of the General Assembly, in particular by:

(a) Seeking improvements in the statistical measurement of the relative capacity to pay, including new or additional statistical indicators and criteria;

(b) Considering the possibility of mitigating extreme variations in assessments between two successive scales, without departing essentially from the principle of the capacity to pay, either by increasing the statistical base period from three years to some longer period or by any other appropriate method;

(c) Bearing in mind the fact that the capacity to pay of Member States may be subject to severe fluctuations in economic activity for a variety of reasons;

5. *Further requests* the Committee on Contributions to embody as appropriate in subsequent reports of the Committee the particular justification for any significant increases in the assessment of any Member State between two successive scales;

6. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to report in depth on its findings to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session with a view to enabling the Assembly to consider early action on a new scale;

7. *Decides* to enlarge the membership of the Committee on Contributions by five members, effective 1 January 1977.⁵⁶

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B

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

(a) The scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States to the United Nations budget for the financial year 1977 shall be as follows:

<i>Member State</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Afghanistan	0.02
Albania	0.02
Algeria	0.10
Argentina	0.83
Australia	1.52
Austria	0.63
Bahamas	0.02
Bahrain	0.02
Bangladesh	0.04
Barbados	0.02
Belgium	1.07
Benin	0.02
Bhutan	0.02
Bolivia	0.02
Botswana	0.02
Brazil	1.04
Bulgaria	0.13
Burma	0.02
Burundi	0.02
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic ..	0.40
Canada	2.96
Cape Verde	0.02
Central African Empire	0.02
Chad	0.02
Chile	0.09

⁵⁶ See also resolution 31/96.