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Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Human resources management

Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present document contains the annual report of the Secretary-General on the use of gratis personnel. The annual report concerns the situation during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002.

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 51/243 of 15 September 1997, in paragraph 12 of which the Secretary-General was requested to report annually on the use of gratis personnel, indicating, inter alia, their nationality, the duration of their service and the functions performed. The report updates the previous annual report (A/56/839) and covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002.

2. By General Assembly decision 55/462 of 12 April 2001, the frequency of reporting on the situation of gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities was changed from quarterly to annual, commencing with the period ending 31 December 2001.

II. Type I gratis personnel

3. Table 1 provides data on type I gratis personnel who serve under an established regime.¹ These are interns, associate experts and technical cooperation experts obtained on a non-reimbursable loan.² The total number for each category as at 31 December 2002 is compared with the numbers contained in previous reports.

4. The overall number of type I gratis personnel has increased by 60.9 per cent, from 187 personnel as at 31 December 2001 to 301 personnel by 31 December 2002. The overall increase is mainly due to a 108 per cent increase in the number of interns (type Ia), from 68 as at 31 December 2001 to 142 by 31 December 2002. The number of associate experts (type Ib) increased from 105 in December 2001 to 124 in December 2002, an increase of 18.1 per cent. The number of technical cooperation experts (type Ic) increased by 150 per cent, from 14 to 35, over the reference period.

III. Type II gratis personnel

5. Table 2 provides information on the one type II gratis personnel in service as at 31 December 2002, by department, nationality, function and duration of service. The duration of engagement is more than one year and is expected to end on 31 December 2003.

6. Table 3 shows the evolution of type II gratis personnel during the period from 31 December 2001 to 31 December 2002, by department or office. The total number of one type II gratis personnel as at 31 December 2002 shows a decrease by 66 per cent compared with the total of three as at 31 December 2001.

7. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights separated one type II gratis personnel in 2002, who had been engaged as an indigenous people's rights lawyer.

8. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) separated one type II gratis personnel in 2002, who had been engaged as a health economist to provide Member States with policy advice.

9. The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) engaged in 2001 a type II gratis personnel as a hydrology expert, whose services were provided

by the Government of Germany for a period of two years. As at 31 December 2002 he continues to perform his services, which are expected to end on 31 December 2003.

10. Table 4 shows the number of regular staff members in ESCWA where the type II gratis personnel performed functions as at 31 December 2002. The ratio of his representation to regular staff is 0.4 per cent.

Notes

¹ See section 1 of ST/AI/1999/6 of 28 May 1999 on gratis personnel.

² In conformity with the new personnel statute of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), which was established as a subsidiary body of the Security Council to replace the United Nations Special Commission as from 17 December 1999 (see A/51/688/Add.2, para. 4, and A/51/688/Add.3, para. 3), all type I gratis personnel were phased out by 30 September 2000.

Abbreviations used in the tables

ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
UNMOVIC	United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission
UNSCOM	United Nations Special Commission

Table 1
Evolution of type I gratis personnel

<i>As at</i>	<i>Interns</i>	<i>Associate experts^a</i>	<i>Technical cooperation experts^b</i>	<i>UNSCOM/UNMOVIC^c</i>	<i>Total</i>
31 October 1996	131	76	31	112	350
30 September 1997	195	72	32	109	408
30 September 1998	214	115	31	18	378
30 September 1999	296 ^d	290 ^d	18	25	629 ^d
31 December 1999	43 ^d	268 ^d	16	25	352 ^d
31 March 2000	101 ^d	270 ^d	13	19 ^d	403 ^d
30 June 2000	206 ^d	271 ^d	12 ^d	15	504 ^d
30 September 2000	151	250	11	0	412
31 December 2000	39	218	8	0	265
31 December 2001	68	105	14	0	187
31 December 2002	142	124	35	0	301

^a 200 series.

^b See ST/AI/231/Rev.1.

^c See S/22508.

^d Adjusted (see para. 2).

Table 2
Type II gratis personnel, by department, nationality, function and duration of service

(As at 31 December 2002)

<i>Department</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	<i>Function</i>	<i>Count</i>	<i>Duration of service</i>
ESCWA	Germany	Hydrology expert	1	More than one year

Table 3
Evolution of type II gratis personnel, by department or office

(31 December 2001-31 December 2002)

<i>Department or office</i>	<i>Reported on 31 December 2001</i>	<i>Reported on 31 December 2002</i>	<i>Change +/- (%)</i>
ESCWA	1	1	(+0%)
OHCHR	1	0	(-100%)
ECA	1	0	(-100%)
Total	3	1	-2 (-66%)

Table 4
Number of regular staff in the department where the type II gratis personnel performed functions

(As at 31 December 2002)

<i>Department</i>	<i>Staff in the Professional and higher categories</i>	<i>Staff in the General Service and related categories</i>	<i>Total staff</i>	<i>Number of gratis personnel</i>	<i>Ratio of gratis personnel to staff (percentage)</i>
ESCWA	86	162	248	1	0.4