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Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee

Pattern of conferences

Letter dated 8 September 2009 from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I am writing to you in relation to the provisions of paragraph 7 of section I of General Assembly resolution 40/243, according to which no subsidiary organ of the Assembly may meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly. Subsidiary organs wishing to meet during a regular session of the Assembly must submit their requests through the Committee on Conferences.

I wish to inform you that the Committee on Conferences has received requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Disarmament Commission, the Executive Board of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to meet in New York during the main part of the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

The Committee on Conferences, having carefully considered those requests and the reasons for them, does not object, on the strict understanding that all such meetings would be allocated conference services on "as available" basis, from within existing resources, in such a way that the work of the General Assembly and its Main Committees is not impeded. The chairs of those bodies will also be informed of the statistics relating to their utilization of conference services in the past. If the benchmark figure of 80 per cent was not reached in the previous year, the Committee will express its concern and make proposals for improvement.

* A/64/150.



Accordingly, I should be grateful if the General Assembly would explicitly authorize the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Disarmament Commission, the Executive Board of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to meet in accordance with their requests, subject to the conditions referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

(Signed) Barbara **Kaudel**
Chair
Committee on Conferences
