



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-seventh session

Agenda item 139

### Programme planning

#### Report of the Fifth Committee

*Rapporteur:* Mr. Marinko Avramović (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

#### I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2022, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-seventh session the item entitled “Programme planning” and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 5th, 18th and resumed 25th meetings, on 12 October, 28 November and 30 December 2022. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee’s consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records.<sup>1</sup>

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixty-second session ([A/77/16](#));

(b) Reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for 2023: plan outline and programme plan for programmes and subprogrammes and programme performance information ([A/77/6](#) (Plan outline), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 2), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 3), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 4), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 5), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 6), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 8), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 8)/Corr.1, [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 9), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 10), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 11), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 12), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 13), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 14), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 14)/Corr.1, [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 15), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 16), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 17), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 18), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 19), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 20), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 21), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 22), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 24), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 24)/Corr.1, [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 25), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 26), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 27), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 28), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 29), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 29A), [A/77/6](#) (Sect. 29B), [A/77/6](#)

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\* Reissued for technical reasons on 15 December 2023.

<sup>1</sup> [A/C.5/77/SR.5](#), [A/C.5/77/SR.18](#) and [A/C.5/77/SR.25/Add.1](#).



(Sect. 29C), A/77/6 (Sect. 29E), A/77/6 (Sect. 29F), A/77/6 (Sect. 29G), A/77/6 (Sect. 30), A/77/6 (Sect. 31), A/77/6 (Sect. 34));

(c) Letter dated 26 October 2022 from the Chair of the Third Committee addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/77/11);

(d) Letter dated 28 October 2022 from the Chair of the First Committee addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/77/12).

## II. Consideration of proposals

### A. Draft resolution A/C.5/77/L.7

4. At the resumed 25th meeting, on 30 December, the representative of the Russian Federation, also on behalf of Belarus, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Nicaragua, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe introduced a draft resolution entitled "Programme planning" (A/C.5/77/L.7).

5. At the same meeting, the representative of Switzerland (also on behalf of Liechtenstein) made a statement and requested a recorded vote on the draft resolution.

6. Also at the same meeting, before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Czechia (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Georgia, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia and the Republic of Moldova, which aligned themselves with the statement) and Qatar, in explanation of vote.

7. Also at its resumed 25th meeting, the Committee rejected the draft resolution by a recorded vote of 19 to 83, with 49 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

#### *In favour:*

Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe.

#### *Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan,<sup>2</sup> Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen.

#### *Abstaining:*

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq,

<sup>2</sup> The delegation of the Sudan subsequently indicated that it had intended to abstain.

Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, South Africa, Timor-Leste, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Zambia.

8. At the same meeting, after the vote, statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic, Belarus and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## **B. Draft resolution [A/C.5/77/L.13](#)**

9. At its resumed 25th meeting, on 30 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Programme planning” ([A/C.5/77/L.13](#)), submitted by the Chair of the Committee on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Spain.

10. At the same meeting, the representative of Qatar orally proposed an amendment to the draft resolution by which a new operative paragraph would be inserted, relating to programme 6, Legal affairs, and reading:

*Further approves* the programme plan for programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

11. Also at the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation requested a recorded vote on the proposed amendment.

12. At the same meeting, before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic.

13. Also at the same meeting, before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Czechia (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Georgia, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia and the Republic of Moldova, which aligned themselves with the statement), in explanation of vote.

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the proposed amendment to draft resolution [A/C.5/77/L.13](#) by a recorded vote of 88 to 18, with 46 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

### *In favour:*

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Yemen.

### *Against:*

Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe.

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Mauritius, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia.

15. At the same meeting, after the vote, the representatives of Cuba, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Russian Federation, Nicaragua, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Syrian Arab Republic, Belarus, Eritrea and the Islamic Republic of Iran made statements, indicating that they wished to disassociate themselves from the oral amendment to the draft resolution.

16. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution as a whole, as orally amended, without a vote (see para. 17).

### III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

17. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### Programme planning

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [37/234](#) of 21 December 1982, [38/227 A](#) of 20 December 1983, [41/213](#) of 19 December 1986, [55/234](#) of 23 December 2000, [56/253](#) of 24 December 2001, [57/282](#) of 20 December 2002, [58/268](#) and [58/269](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/275](#) of 23 December 2004, [60/257](#) of 8 May 2006, [61/235](#) of 22 December 2006, [62/224](#) of 22 December 2007, [63/247](#) of 24 December 2008, [64/229](#) of 22 December 2009, [65/244](#) of 24 December 2010, [66/8](#) of 11 November 2011, [67/236](#) of 24 December 2012, [68/20](#) of 4 December 2013, [69/17](#) of 18 November 2014, [70/8](#) of 13 November 2015, [71/6](#) of 27 October 2016, [72/9](#) of 17 November 2017, [72/266 A](#) of 24 December 2017, [72/266 B](#) of 5 July 2018, section III of its resolution [72/262 C](#) of 5 July 2018 and its resolutions [73/269](#) of 22 December 2018, [74/251](#) of 27 December 2019, [75/243](#) of 31 December 2020 and [76/236](#) of 24 December 2021,

*Recalling also* the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [2008 \(LX\)](#) of 14 May 1976,

*Recalling further* the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,<sup>1</sup> by which the relevant programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed strategic framework shall be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies, if possible during the regular cycle of their meetings,

*Having considered* the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its sixty-second session,<sup>2</sup> the reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for 2023: part I, plan outline,<sup>3</sup> and part II, proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021,<sup>4</sup> and the letters and the annexes thereto from the Chairs of the Disarmament and International Security Committee (First Committee) dated 28 October 2022<sup>5</sup> and the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (Third Committee) dated 26 October 2022<sup>6</sup> addressed to the Chair of the Fifth Committee,

<sup>1</sup> [ST/SGB/2018/3](#).

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/77/16)*.

<sup>3</sup> [A/77/6 \(Plan outline\)](#).

<sup>4</sup> [A/77/6 \(Sect. 2\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 3\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 4\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 5\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 6\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 8\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 8\)/Corr.1](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 10\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 11\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 13\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 14\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 14\)/Corr.1](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 17\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 18\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 24\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 24\)/Corr.1](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 25\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 26\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 28\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29A\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29B\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29C\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29E\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29F\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 29G\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 30\)](#), [A/77/6 \(Sect. 31\)](#) and [A/77/6 \(Sect. 34\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> [A/C.5/77/12](#).

<sup>6</sup> [A/C.5/77/11](#).

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;
2. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in verifying that the programmes of activities of the Organization are implemented in line with the legislative mandates and that the full implementation of regulations and rules is ensured;
3. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;
4. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;
5. *Reiterates* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;
6. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and also reaffirms the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard;
7. *Notes* the increased size and volume of documentation that forms the proposed programme budget, and notes with appreciation that the Secretary-General continues his efforts to enhance the quality, clarity and usability of the proposed programme budget in consultation with Member States, while maintaining the level of information provided to Member States;
8. *Recalls* paragraph 15 of its resolution [74/251](#) and paragraph 14 of its resolution [76/236](#), and reiterates its guidance to the Secretary-General to ensure that the terms and expressions referenced in the proposed programme plan have been intergovernmentally agreed;
9. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, and welcomes its report;
10. *Recalls* paragraph 7 of its resolution [76/236](#), commends the progress made by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its sixty-second session and increased engagement by all relevant stakeholders, notes with appreciation that the number of programmes without conclusions and recommendations from the Committee for Programme and Coordination has reduced this year, and notes the letters provided by the Chairs of the Main Committees of the General Assembly;
11. *Reiterates* that whenever the Committee for Programme and Coordination cannot provide conclusions and recommendations on a given subprogramme or programme of the proposed programme budget, the plenary or the relevant Main Committee or Main Committees of the General Assembly responsible for those mandates will consider the said subprogramme or programme at the very start of its session in order to provide any conclusions and recommendations to the Fifth Committee, at the earliest opportunity, and no later than four weeks after the start of the session, for timely consideration by the Fifth Committee;

12. *Recognizes* the efforts of the President of the General Assembly and the Chair of the Fifth Committee in following up with the Chairs of the relevant Main Committees on the consideration of the programmes without recommendations from the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in accordance with paragraph 16 of its resolution [76/236](#), and decides that incoming Presidents of the General Assembly and Chairs of the Fifth Committee shall reach out to and support the Chairs of the Main Committees to ensure that conclusions and recommendations are issued on time;

13. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance for 2021<sup>7</sup> and on evaluation,<sup>8</sup> contained in its report on the work of its sixty-second session, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely implementation of the recommendations;

14. *Approves*, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, for programmes 3 and 20 of the proposed programme budget for 2023, a programme narrative that is composed solely of the list of mandates at the programme level and the objectives approved by the General Assembly in its resolution [71/6](#) and the deliverables for 2023 at the subprogramme level;

15. *Also approves*, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, for programmes 13 and 21 of the proposed programme budget for 2023, a programme narrative that is composed solely of the list of mandates at the programme level and the objectives approved by the General Assembly in its resolution [76/236](#) and the deliverables for 2023 at the subprogramme level;

16. *Further approves* the programme plan for programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2023, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>9</sup>

17. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2021,<sup>10</sup> on United Nations system support for Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want<sup>11</sup> and on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/77/16)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. B.

<sup>9</sup> [A/77/6 \(Sect. 8\)](#) and [A/77/6 \(Sect. 8\)/Corr.1](#).

<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/77/16)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. B.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV.