



# General Assembly

Sixty-fifth session

Official Records

Distr.: General  
10 December 2010

Original: English

---

## Second Committee

### Summary record of the 28th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 12 November 2010, at 10 a.m.

*Chairperson:* Ms. Ochir ..... (Mongolia)

## Contents

Agenda item 25: Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*)

Agenda item 19: Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference (*continued*)

Agenda item 20: Sustainable development (*continued*)

- (a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (*continued*)
- (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*continued*)
- (c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (*continued*)
- (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (*continued*)
- (f) Convention on Biological Diversity (*continued*)
- (i) Harmony with Nature (*continued*)

Agenda item 21: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (*continued*)

---

This record is subject to correction. Corrections should be sent under the signature of a member of the delegation concerned *within one week of the date of publication* to the Chief of the Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza, and incorporated in a copy of the record.

Corrections will be issued after the end of the session, in a separate corrigendum for each Committee.



Agenda item 22: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)

(c) International migration and development (*continued*)

Agenda item 24: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*)

(a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) (*continued*)

Agenda item 26: Agriculture development and food security (*continued*)

Agenda item 60: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (*continued*)

Agenda item 24: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*)

Agenda item 25: Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*)

*The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.*

**Agenda item 25: Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system** (*continued*) (A/65/394 and Add.1)

1. **Mr. Ortiz** (Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)), speaking via video link from Geneva, introduced the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the JIU report on the role of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Resident Coordinators (A/65/394). He drew attention to the 18 benchmarks for coherence and integration within the United Nations system and the proposal for a flexible model to facilitate their adaptation to the variety of situations in which the Organization operated.

2. **Mr. Kenneth** (Senior Adviser on Information Management Policy Coordination, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)) introduced the note by the Secretary-General containing his comments and those of CEB on the JIU report entitled "The Role of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Resident Coordinators", as contained in document A/65/394/Add.1. Agencies had noted that work on the JIU report had begun in May 2008, with an initial scope to review the role of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Resident Coordinators. However, the draft report they had received over a year later, in October 2009, and the final report in May 2010, had focused on analysis of coherence and integration. While there was a need for such focus, agencies had expressed regret over the implicit change in scope and suggested that if preliminary research pointed to a need to refocus the review, it would have been advisable to relaunch it with a redefined scope, new clear objectives and a correspondingly adapted methodology. Responses might have been different if questions had been posed in the context of coherence and integration within the United Nations system rather than the role of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and Resident Coordinators.

3. In addition, during the report preparation, events had inevitably overtaken some of the analysis. For example, benchmark 4, which called for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Political Affairs to improve their coordination mechanisms, illustrated that point. During the time frame of the report, the Secretary-General had

issued bulletins which clarified the roles and coordination within those departments.

4. Agencies had largely accepted the benchmarks themselves but had expressed difficulty with the actions that JIU intended to take to achieve them. For example, benchmark 5 called for existing inter-agency coordination mechanisms to more effectively promote system-wide integration and coherence. While agencies supported the concept of a stronger voice to stimulate coherence, they noted that the mechanisms proposed, such as enhancing CEB to become an instrument to implement Member States' mandates, simply did not seem practical. CEB functioned as a coordinating body, with individual agencies empowered, and accountable, to implement Member States' mandates. Agencies therefore remained unclear how CEB's mandate could be changed to function in that different capacity.

5. Benchmark 15 recommended a results-based approach to ensure coherent and integrated processes, which agencies strongly supported. However, the report had proposed a single common country programme and strategy, which agencies suggested might be difficult to achieve in all cases, given the differing mandates of diverse parts of the United Nations system. In particular, the "One United Nations" approach was unlikely to be applicable in conflict and immediate post-conflict contexts and where the role of Government was ambiguous.

6. Agencies had clearly found the report to be of significant interest and value, and appreciated any analysis that could lead to more effective harmonization. In the words of one agency, there was a need for greater coherence between coherence and integration efforts across the system, and the report formed a nucleus for continued discussions of those critical topics.

7. **The Chairperson** invited the Committee to engage in a general discussion on the item.

8. **Ms. Navarro Barro** (Cuba) said that a number of the recommendations in the JIU report as contained in document A/65/394, would be very useful and merited in-depth consideration by the Committee and other relevant intergovernmental bodies, including the Economic and Social Council, for example through its segment on operational activities, as well as the executive boards of funds and programmes.

9. The report confirmed that development assistance efforts must be based on the priorities set by recipient countries and focus on national leadership, rather than on the interests of donors or the views of the funds and programmes. It was encouraging that the United Nations did not seek to impose a single development model.

10. Her Government endorsed the view set out in the report that the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Committee for Programme and Coordination was to bring greater coherence to bodies with a legislative mandate, including the Economic and Social Council, and the work of the funds and programmes.

11. Drawing attention to paragraphs 129-133 of the report, she asked the JIU representative what could be done to improve the system for the selection of Resident Coordinators, since the current process rested in the hands of a select few funds in the system. She also asked why the funds and programmes seemed to have misgivings with regard to the harmonization of conditions of service for all United Nations staff active in the field .

12. **Mr. Barton** (United States of America) asked the representative of JIU which two or three of the many benchmarks and recommendations contained in the report (A/65/394) would have the greatest impact and were most likely to help Member States to focus their attention. Similarly, he asked the representative of CEB which two or three items from the relevant report (A/65/394/Add.1) could be most easily implemented and what the effect of their implementation might be.

13. **Mr. Mero** (United Republic of Tanzania) wished to hear from the representative of JIU what measures were effective in ensuring system-wide coherence, since the report seemed to focus mainly on what did not work.

14. **Mr. Ortiz** (Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)), replying to the questions and comments from the representative of Cuba, said that the benchmarks were intended as guidance for solving the most important coherence and integration issues that JIU had been able to identify within the page limitation to its report. Ultimately, it was up to the Member States and relevant organizations to discuss and resolve any outstanding issues.

15. On the matter of the selection of Resident Coordinators, it was crucial to enhance ownership of that process and to ensure that all agencies played an equal part in it, rather than continue to feel that it was mainly governed by the United Nations Development Programme. Greater improvements were needed in that regard.

16. The differing conditions of service among the various United Nations organizations were a serious problem involving a range of issues and financial implications, which needed to be resolved in order to ensure coherence and integration.

17. In response to the question from the representative of the United States, he said that benchmark 1 on the coherence and integration process was particularly important, although he emphasized that the benchmarks were all interrelated and it would be impossible to provide a detailed analysis without discussing them all.

18. Lastly, in response to the comment from the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, he said that the United Nations system was increasingly moving towards coherence, although more efforts were needed in that respect.

19. **Mr. Kenneth** (Senior Adviser on Information Management Policy Coordination, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)) said that most of the agencies had found the benchmarks to be sensible, reasonable and clearly interrelated. It would be impossible to single out any specific benchmark for implementation without further consultation with all the players involved, including Member States, the Economic and Social Council, the Committee for Programme and Coordination and other intergovernmental and coordinating bodies.

20. **Mr. Al-Ansari** (Qatar) asked how cooperation could be improved between CEB and United Nations agencies, including the Office of the President of the General Assembly.

21. **Mr. Ortiz** (Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)) said that it was not his place to comment on the "Delivering as One" initiative, which he was aware certain States felt was being imposed on them by the Secretary-General. His job was merely to gather the ingredients for enhanced coordination; the recipe was for the Member States and CEB to decide. He agreed with the representatives of Cuba and CEB that the benchmarks

were a useful basis for discussion and welcomed contributions to that discussion from all relevant parties.

22. **Mr. Kenneth** (Senior Adviser on Information Management Policy Coordination, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)) said that in coordinating the work of different agencies within the United Nations system, CEB welcomed input from all relevant parties and was doing everything possible to keep the lines of communication open.

**Agenda item 19: Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference** (*continued*) (A/C.2/65/L.37)

*Draft resolution on innovative mechanisms of financing for development* (A/C.2/65/L.37)

23. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.37 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**Agenda item 20: Sustainable development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/65/L.32 and L.35)

*Draft resolution on cooperative measures to assess and increase awareness of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea* (A/C.2/65/L.32)

24. **Ms. Kazragienė** (Lithuania), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.32, informed the Committee that Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had joined the sponsors. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development had declared that environmental protection was an integral part of the development process. Although the issue of chemical waste in general had been addressed by several international instruments, there was no framework for addressing specifically the harm to the marine environment caused by the dumping of chemical munitions in the ocean. The draft resolution encouraged States to share information, to raise awareness about that environmental threat and to submit their views on the issue for circulation at the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly.

*Draft resolution entitled "Global Code of Ethics for Tourism"* (A/C.2/65/L.35)

25. **Ms. Flores** (Honduras), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.35, said that over 100 Member States had responded to a survey conducted by the United Nations World Tourism Organization on implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism. The results of the survey showed that a number of States were already incorporating provisions of the Code into their domestic legislation; that tourism was of particular economic significance to many developing and least developed States; and that, since its adoption in 1999, the Code had played a useful role in integrating tourism into national development strategies. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

26. **The Chairperson** noted that Djibouti wished to be added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution.

**(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development** (*continued*) (A/C.2/65/L.24 and L.25)

*Draft resolution on follow-up of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008* (A/C.2/65/L.24)

27. **Mr. Alemán** (Panama) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.24 on behalf of the sponsors listed in the document.

*Draft resolution on the International Year of Water Diplomacy* (A/C.2/65/L.25)

28. **Mr. Aslov** (Tajikistan), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.25, informed the Committee that Madagascar wished to be added to the list of sponsors. He recalled that his delegation had explained the rationale behind the draft resolution during the Committee's debate on sustainable development and drew attention to the explanatory memorandum that had been circulated together with the draft resolution.

29. **The Chairperson** noted that Gabon and Iraq wished to be added to the list of sponsors.

**(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (continued)**

(A/C.2/65/L.26 and L.40)

*Draft resolution entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations" (A/C.2/65/L.26)*

30. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.26 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

*Draft resolution on follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/C.2/65/L.40)*

31. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.40 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**(c) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (continued)** (A/C.2/65/L.27 and L.34)

*Draft resolution on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (A/C.2/65/L.27)*

32. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.27 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

*Draft resolution on the international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon (A/C.2/65/L.34)*

33. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.34 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (continued)** (A/C.2/65/L.33)

*Draft resolution on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (A/C.2/65/L.33)*

34. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.33 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**(f) Convention on Biological Diversity (continued)** (A/C.2/65/L.39)

*Draft resolution on the Convention on Biological Diversity (A/C.2/65/L.39)*

35. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.39 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**(i) Harmony with Nature (continued)** (A/C.2/65/L.30)

*Draft resolution entitled "Harmony with Nature" (A/C.2/65/L.30)*

36. **Mr. Loayza Barea** (Plurinational State of Bolivia), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.30 on behalf of the original sponsors and Ecuador, El Salvador, Gabon, Georgia and Seychelles, said that there was an urgent need to devise a more sustainable development model that would allow humans to live in harmony with nature. The draft resolution reflected the concern of the United Nations about current environmental deterioration and its impact on nature as a result of human activity, which had been expressed in various General Assembly resolutions over the previous decade and by civil society and the academic and scientific communities. It proposed fostering interactive dialogues among Member States and independent technical experts in various key sectors in order to generate a holistic vision aimed at achieving harmony in the relationship between human beings and nature.

37. The new challenge was to devise a complementary, comprehensive way of taking into account the deterioration of nature caused by economic growth. It was also proposed that a United Nations portal be created to centralize information from a sustainable development perspective in order to bring together multidisciplinary scientific activities being pursued in different parts of the world centred on the relationship between humans and nature, also including traditional, ancestral knowledge from different ancient cultures and civilizations that could contribute towards that aim. All of those activities could contribute substantively to the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in 2012.

**Agenda item 21: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (continued) (A/C.2/65/L.36)**

*Draft resolution on implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (A/C.2/65/L.36)*

38. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.36 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**Agenda item 22: Globalization and interdependence (continued)**

**(c) International migration and development (continued) (A/C.2/65/L.23)**

*Draft resolution on international migration and development (A/C.2/65/L.23)*

39. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.23 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**Agenda item 24: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (continued)**

**(a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) (continued) (A/C.2/65/L.38)**

*Draft resolution on the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) (A/C.2/65/L.38)*

40. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.38 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**Agenda item 26: Agriculture development and food security (continued) (A/C.2/65/L.29)**

*Draft resolution on agriculture development and food security (A/C.2/65/L.29)*

41. **Mr. Al Hadhrami** (Yemen) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.29 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

**Agenda item 60: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (continued) (A/C.2/65/L.31)**

*Draft resolution on permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (A/C.2/65/L.31)*

42. **Mr. Khalil** (Egypt) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.31 on behalf of the original sponsors and Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Ecuador, Namibia and Pakistan. The draft resolution reflected the Secretary-General's report (A/65/72-E/2010/13), which demonstrated that the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, continued to deepen the economic and social hardships of the Palestinian people. The draft resolution was similar to General Assembly resolution 64/185. However, technical updates had been included in the first, twelfth and fifteenth preambular paragraphs and some amendments had been inserted in the sixteenth preambular paragraph and in paragraphs 2, 4 and 8.

**Agenda item 24: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (continued) (A/C.2/65/L.10)**

*Draft resolution on promotion of ecotourism for poverty eradication and environment protection (A/C.2/65/L.10)*

43. **The Chairperson** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.10, which was being submitted by Mr. Iziraren (Morocco). The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

44. **Mr. Iziraren** (Morocco) said that, in addition to the delegations listed in the document, the following delegations had joined the list of sponsors: Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Haiti, India, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Mauritania, the Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Nepal, Serbia, Seychelles, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Ukraine.

45. **The Chairperson** said that Albania, Andorra, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Nicaragua, Oman, Panama and Uganda also wished to join the list of sponsors.

46. *Draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.10 was adopted.*

**Agenda item 25: Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system** *(continued)*

(A/C.2/65/L.19)

*Draft resolutions entitled "Renaming of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund to include the United Nations Office for Project Services"*  
(A/C.2/65/L.2 and L.19)

47. **The Chairperson** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.19, which was being submitted by Mr. Pierre (Haiti), Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.2. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

48. *Draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.19 was adopted.*

49. *Draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.2 was withdrawn.*

*Draft resolutions on operational activities for development of the United Nations system*  
(A/C.2/65/L.4 and L.14)

50. **The Chairperson** invited the Committee to take action on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.14, which was being submitted by Mr. Pierre (Haiti), Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.4. The draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

51. *Draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.14 was adopted.*

52. *Draft resolution A/C.2/65/L.4 was withdrawn.*

*The meeting rose at 12.05 p.m.*