

"Rule 158

"The General Assembly shall appoint an expert Committee on Contributions consisting of eighteen members."

98th plenary meeting
14 December 1976

31/140. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1202 (XII) of 13 December 1957, 1851 (XVII) of 19 December 1962, 1987 (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, 2116 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2239 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2361 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2478 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, 2609 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2693 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 2834 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 2960 (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, 3351 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974 and 3491 (XXX) of 15 December 1975,

I

1. Takes note of the report of the Committee on Conferences established by General Assembly resolution 3351 (XXIX);⁵⁸

2. Approves the draft calendar of conferences and meetings for 1977 set forth in annex I to the report;

3. Takes note of the tentative calendar of conferences and meetings for 1978 set forth in annex II to the report;⁵⁹

4. Reaffirms the general principle that, in drawing up the schedule of conferences and meetings, United Nations bodies shall plan to meet at their respective established headquarters, with the following exceptions:

(a) The Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme may, in accordance with its rules of procedure, hold one of its sessions at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

(b) The sessions of the International Law Commission shall be held at Geneva;

(c) The sessions of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law may be held, subject to the provision in section II, paragraph 6, of General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, alternately at Headquarters in New York and at Geneva;

(d) The regular summer session of the Economic and Social Council may be held at Geneva provided that the closing date falls at least six weeks before the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly;

(e) The functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, other than the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, shall meet at their established headquarters unless a more rational pattern of the work programme can be achieved by holding their sessions at Geneva, that decision being without prejudice to any subsequent decision to hold them at Vienna;

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 32 (A/31/32).

⁵⁹ In accordance with its resolution 3491 (XXX), the General Assembly will have before it at its thirty-second session for approval the draft calendars for 1978 and 1979 corresponding to the programme budget.

(f) The regular sessions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic Commission for Western Asia, as well as meetings of their subsidiary bodies, may be held away from their headquarters when the commission concerned so decides, subject, in the case of regular sessions of the commissions, to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly;

(g) The International Civil Service Commission shall hold its regular annual session at Headquarters and, if more than one session is required in any one year, it may accept an invitation from one of its participating organizations to hold its other session or sessions at the headquarters of that participating organization;

5. Decides that United Nations bodies may hold sessions away from their established headquarters when a Government issuing an invitation for a session to be held within its territory has agreed to defray, after consultation with the Secretary-General as to their nature and possible extent, the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved;

6. Requests the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General to take account of the following principles in drawing up the draft calendar of conferences and meetings:

(a) The biennial calendar of conferences and meetings approved by the General Assembly shall govern the meetings programme during the period concerned;

(b) All United Nations meetings shall be carried out within the resources allocated by the General Assembly for that purpose;

(c) Between sessions of the General Assembly, departures from the calendar may, in special or unusual circumstances, be approved by the Committee on Conferences, provided that changes affecting the subsequent year of the biennium shall be approved by the Assembly;

(d) Subsidiary organs of the General Assembly shall not, without the approval of the Assembly, create new standing bodies or *ad hoc* sessional or intersessional bodies that require additional resources, and other principal organs of the United Nations should make similar decisions with regard to their respective subsidiary bodies, if they have not already done so;

(e) An adequate interval of time, to be determined by the body concerned, shall be allowed between sessions of the same bodies to permit Member States to derive maximum benefit from the activities and to provide sufficient time for the preparation of future activities;

(f) United Nations bodies shall meet at their respective established headquarters, subject to the exceptions to this principle approved by the General Assembly;

II

1. Takes note of the action taken by its subsidiary organs and by the Secretariat to apply the criteria established by General Assembly resolution 3415 (XXX) of 8 December 1975 and urges all bodies to continue their efforts to rationalize their meeting records;

2. *Reiterates* its appeal to subsidiary bodies to consider the application to their subsidiary bodies of criterion 6, according to which such bodies should cease to be provided with meeting records of any kind;⁶⁰

3. *Reaffirms* that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and the International Law Commission should continue to receive records in both provisional and final form;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to specify, in the statement of financial implications accompanying a draft resolution calling for the establishment of a new body, which conference services are to be provided;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision⁶¹ that statements may be reproduced *in extenso* only if they serve as bases for discussion and after statements of financial implications have been presented to the bodies requesting them.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1976*

31/141. Report of the International Civil Service Commission

A

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the second annual report of the International Civil Service Commission;⁶²

2. *Approves* the intention of the Commission to assume forthwith its functions under article 12 of its statute⁶³ regarding the salaries of the General Service category and requests it to submit its conclusions and recommendations in time to be considered by the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

*103rd plenary meeting
17 December 1976*

B

REVIEW OF THE UNITED NATIONS SALARY SYSTEM: AMENDMENTS TO THE STAFF REGULATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3042 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, 3357 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974 and 3418 (XXX) of 8 December 1975 by which it requested the International Civil Service Commission to review, as a matter of priority, the United Nations salary system,

Noting with satisfaction the timely completion by the Commission of the major part of this review,

Having considered the report of the Commission thereon,⁶⁴ together with the comments transmitted by

⁶⁰ A/INF/31/2 and Corr.1.

⁶¹ Resolution 2292 (XXII), annex, para. (b).

⁶² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/31/30), part one.*

⁶³ Resolution 3357 (XXIX), annex.

⁶⁴ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/31/30), part two, and A/31/30/Add.1.*

the Secretary-General as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination⁶⁵ and those of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.⁶⁶

Noting the conclusions reached by the Commission as set out in chapter II of its report,⁶⁴

I

1. *Decides* that the International Civil Service Commission, as a standing body, should keep under continual review the relationship between the levels of remuneration of the comparator civil service, at present the United States Civil Service, and the United Nations system, having due regard to all relevant factors, including the differences between the two services, and decides that at any time when the Commission considers corrective action is necessary it should either recommend such action to the General Assembly or, if urgent conservatory action is necessary between sessions of the Assembly to prevent an undue widening of the margin of United Nations remuneration over that of the comparator civil service, take appropriate measures itself within the operation of the post adjustment system;

2. *Decides* that:

(a) The equivalent of five classes of post adjustment shall be consolidated into the base salaries of the Professional and higher categories;

(b) The base of the post adjustment system shall be changed from New York at 100 as at December 1969 to New York at 100 as at November 1973;

3. *Approves* the revised scales of staff assessment rates, post adjustment rates and gross and net salaries for the Professional and higher categories as set out in the annex to the present resolution;

4. *Authorizes* temporary transitional payments, which shall not be pensionable, to be made to staff members whose remuneration under the revised scales would be less than under the existing scales, the amounts of these payments and the modalities for their gradual reduction and ultimate elimination to be determined by the Commission;

5. *Decides* that, in cases where the revised level of pensionable remuneration would be less than the level which would otherwise exist on 1 January 1977, the latter level shall be maintained temporarily until it is overtaken by the revised level;

6. *Decides* that terminal payments (termination indemnities, repatriation grants, payments in lieu of accrued annual leave, death grants) which are defined in terms of "base salary or wage" shall henceforth be defined in terms of "pensionable remuneration less staff assessment";

7. *Decides* to abolish for the Professional and higher categories the existing allowance for a dependent spouse, the prevailing amount of the allowance being incorporated into the revised base salary;

8. *Decides* to increase for the Professional and higher categories the amount of the allowance for a secondary dependant to \$300 per year;

⁶⁵ A/31/239.

⁶⁶ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/31/8 and Add.1-26), document A/31/8/Add.6.*