

principles and guidelines for the use of experts and consultants in the United Nations, provided, *inter alia*, that:

(a) The Secretary-General should ensure that expenditure for consultant services is maintained within the approved figure for 1974-1975 and that no supplementary estimates are presented,

(b) The estimates under this heading in future biennial programme budgets should be prepared with determined restraint, with a view to achieving reductions in the funds requested for this field of activities,

Noting with concern that the aggregate appropriation for experts and consultants proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1978-1979 totals \$11,423,000, compared with approved appropriations for 1974-1975 of \$6,784,000,

Noting that the commendable reduction in proposed expenditure on consultant services envisaged in the estimates for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, in section 5A of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979, arising from greater utilization of staff resources available within the Secretariat and highly selective recourse to external assistance,⁷⁴ has not been reflected in the estimates for certain other budget sectors,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to re-examine proposed expenditure on experts and consultants in 1978-1979 following approval of the programme budget with a view to achieving savings in the aggregate allocation for such activities and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that no supplementary estimates are presented for expenditure on experts and consultants during the biennium 1978-1979.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/210. Form of presentation of the United Nations budget

The General Assembly,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979,⁷⁵

Taking into account that, by its resolution 3043 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, it approved on an experimental basis the new form of presentation of the United Nations budget directed towards the establishment of programme budgeting,

Recalling the statement in the second preambular paragraph of that resolution that the new form of presentation constitutes a useful basis for proceeding towards the introduction of a system of programme budgeting in the United Nations,

Recalling also the decision in that resolution to keep under continuous review the progress achieved in the implementation by the Secretary-General of the new form of presentation of the United Nations budget,

Recognizing that an over-all view of the programme budget is essential for a global analysis thereof,

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/32/6 and Corr.1 and 2)*, vol. I, para. 5A.1.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 6 (A/32/6 and Corr.1 and 2)*.

Requests the Secretary-General to endeavour, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981, to improve its form, content and structure, taking into account the opinions expressed and suggestions made in the Fifth Committee during the general debate on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979, and in particular to submit a summary of the proposed budget containing, *inter alia*, the following information as far as practicable:

(a) The information contained in the foreword and annexes of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979;

(b) Additional relevant information, including that proposed in chapter I of the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979;⁷⁶

(c) Expenditure by programme and subprogramme in absolute figures;

(d) Expenditure by programme and organizational unit;

(e) Expenditure by programme and object of expenditure.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/211. Presentation of the United Nations budget

The General Assembly,

Having noted that, during the consideration of the item entitled "Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979", and especially during the general debate in the Fifth Committee on that item, important problems of principle and method were raised,

Having observed that there is a large measure of agreement concerning the interest in some of these problems and the need to study them further with a view to improving budgetary procedures in the light of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee,

Recalling, in that connexion, the statement made by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee at the Committee's 16th meeting,⁷⁷ as well as the relevant comments of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in its report on the work of its seventeenth session⁷⁸ and the relevant passages of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷⁹

1. *Considers* that the most important of the aforementioned problems relate to:

(a) The need to apply effectively the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3534 (XXX) of 17 December 1975 and 31/93 of 14 December 1976 concerning programmes, projects and activities that are obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective;

(b) The need to assess more accurately the resources required for programme implementation and

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 8 (A/32/8 and Corr.1)*.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Fifth Committee*, 16th meeting, paras. 95-101.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/32/38)*.

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 8 (A/32/8 and Corr. 1)*, paras. 3-42.