

(b) The rates of payments under the system shall be within the range of those prevailing in respect of land-based mining of the same or similar minerals in order to avoid giving deep seabed miners an artificial competitive advantage or imposing on them a competitive disadvantage;

(c) The system should not be complicated and should not impose major administrative costs on the Authority or on a contractor. Consideration should be given to the adoption of a royalty system or a combination of a royalty and profit-sharing system. If alternative systems are decided upon, the contractor has the right to choose the system applicable to its contract. Any subsequent change in choice between alternative systems, however, shall be made by agreement between the Authority and the contractor;

(d) An annual fixed fee shall be payable from the date of commencement of commercial production. This fee may be credited against other payments due under the system adopted in accordance with subparagraph (c). The amount of the fee shall be established by the Council;

(e) The system of payments may be revised periodically in the light of changing circumstances. Any changes shall be applied in a non-discriminatory manner. Such changes may apply to existing contracts only at the election of the contractor. Any subsequent change in choice between alternative systems shall be made by agreement between the Authority and the contractor;

(f) Disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the rules and regulations based on these principles shall be subject to the dispute settlement procedures set out in the Convention.

2. The provisions of Annex III, article 13, paragraphs 3 to 10, of the Convention shall not apply.

3. With regard to the implementation of Annex III, article 13, paragraph 2, of the Convention, the fee for processing applications for approval of a plan of work limited to one phase, either the exploration phase or the exploitation phase, shall be US\$ 250,000.

#### SECTION 9. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. There is hereby established a Finance Committee. The Committee shall be composed of 15 members with appropriate qualifications relevant to financial matters. States Parties shall nominate candidates of the highest standards of competence and integrity.

2. No two members of the Finance Committee shall be nationals of the same State Party.

3. Members of the Finance Committee shall be elected by the Assembly and due account shall be taken of the need for equitable geographical distribution and the representation of special interests. Each group of States referred to in section 3, paragraph 15 (a), (b), (c) and (d), of this Annex shall be represented on the Committee by at least one member. Until the Authority has sufficient funds other than assessed contributions to meet its administrative expenses, the membership of the Committee shall include representatives of the five largest financial contributors to the administrative budget of the Authority. Thereafter, the election of one member from each group shall be on the basis of nomination by the members of the respective group, without prejudice to the possibility of further members being elected from each group.

4. Members of the Finance Committee shall hold office for a term of five years. They shall be eligible for re-election for a further term.

5. In the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Finance Committee prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Assembly shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or group of States.

6. Members of the Finance Committee shall have no financial interest in any activity relating to matters upon which the Committee has the responsibility to make recommendations. They shall not disclose, even after the termination of their functions, any confidential information coming to their knowledge by reason of their duties for the Authority.

7. Decisions by the Assembly and the Council on the following issues shall take into account recommendations of the Finance Committee:

(a) Draft financial rules, regulations and procedures of the organs of the Authority and the financial management and internal financial administration of the Authority;

(b) Assessment of contributions of members to the administrative budget of the Authority in accordance with article 160, paragraph 2 (e), of the Convention;

(c) All relevant financial matters, including the proposed annual budget prepared by the Secretary-General of the Authority in accordance with article 172 of the Convention and the financial aspects of the implementation of the programmes of work of the Secretariat;

(d) The administrative budget;

(e) Financial obligations of States Parties arising from the implementation of this Agreement and Part XI as well as the administrative and budgetary implications of proposals and recommendations involving expenditure from the funds of the Authority;

(f) Rules, regulations and procedures on the equitable sharing of financial and other economic benefits derived from activities in the Area and the decisions to be made thereon.

8. Decisions in the Finance Committee on questions of procedure shall be taken by a majority of members present and voting. Decisions on questions of substance shall be taken by consensus.

9. The requirement of article 162, paragraph 2 (y), of the Convention to establish a subsidiary organ to deal with financial matters shall be deemed to have been fulfilled by the establishment of the Finance Committee in accordance with this section.

#### 48/264. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

##### *The General Assembly*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2837 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 33/138 of 19 December 1978, 39/88 of 13 December 1984, 45/45 of 28 November 1990, 46/77 of 12 December 1991, 46/140 of 17 December 1991, 46/220 of 20 December 1991 and 47/233 of 17 August 1993,

*Reiterating* the importance of the objectives and principles relevant to the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly as set out in resolution 47/233,

*Desiring* to enhance its capacity to exercise the functions and powers assigned to it under the Charter of the United Nations so that it can play a more effective role within the Organization,

*Recognizing* the usefulness of improving its working methods to enable it to perform its functions more effectively, efficiently and in a comprehensive manner.

1. *Stresses* the importance of enhanced cooperation and an effective relationship between the General Assembly and other principal organs, particularly the Security Council, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Decides*, in accordance with and subject to the relevant provisions of the Charter, to continue to use the existing machinery and, when necessary, to consider the creation of new bodies to facilitate the discussion of any question or any matter within the scope of the Charter and, as appropriate, the making of recommendations on it to the Members of the United Nations or to the Security Council or to both;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Security Council to improve its working methods, and in that context encourages the Council, in the submission of reports to the Assembly, to provide in a timely manner a clear and informative account of its work, including its resolutions and other decisions, inclusive of measures taken under Chapter VII of the Charter;

4. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, following consultations, to propose appropriate ways and means to facilitate an in-depth discussion by the Assembly of matters contained in the reports submitted to it by the Security Council;

5. *Encourages* Member States to exercise restraint in making proposals requesting new reports of the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the desirability of reducing the number of such reports;

6. *Emphasizes* that reports requested of the Secretary-General should be made available in all official languages in a timely manner in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and the annexes thereto with a view to enabling delegations to consider the substance of such reports more thoroughly in advance of meetings;

7. *Commends* the valuable work undertaken by the Main Committees to review their respective agendas, and encourages the Committees to continue this work, taking into account the present resolution;

8. *Reaffirms* the right of Member States to propose, in accordance with the rules of procedure, items for inclusion in the agenda of the Assembly;

9. *Adopts* the Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly set forth in annex I to the present resolution, which shall be embodied as an annex to the rules of procedure of the Assembly;

10. *Decides* to replace paragraph 4 of the annex to its resolution 33/138 with the text contained in annex II to the present resolution concerning the pattern of election of the six Chairmen of the Main Committees;

11. *Decides also* that the arrangement concerning the pattern of election of the six Chairmen of the Main Committees shall take effect at its forty-ninth session;

12. *Decides further* to review the arrangement concerning the pattern of election of the six Chairmen of the Main Committees at its fifty-third session;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly at its fifty-second session on the progress achieved in the implementation of the present resolution after having ascertained the views and experience of the Presidents of the Assembly at its forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first sessions;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the item entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly".

*102nd plenary meeting  
29 July 1994*

#### ANNEX I

##### Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly

1. The plenary meetings of the General Assembly should constitute a forum for high-level policy statements, as well as for the consideration, *inter alia*, of agenda items of special political importance and/or urgency.
2. Agenda items which are of a nature that relates to more than one Main Committee or which do not come within the purview of any Main Committee should be considered by the General Assembly in plenary meeting, taking into account the recommendations of the General Committee.
3. Substantive items initially allocated directly to a plenary meeting of the General Assembly could be reviewed for allocation to a Main Committee in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in particular with Assembly decision 34/401, which is reproduced in annex VI to the rules of procedure.
4. There shall be periodic reviews of the agenda, taking into account the views of concerned Member States, in order to ascertain whether it is possible to delete any item on which no resolution or decision has been adopted for a period of time.
5. The Main Committees should be encouraged to continue with the review of their respective agendas, taking into account, *inter alia*, the following:
  - (a) Agenda items concerning issues of closely related substance could be merged within a single agenda title or be incorporated as sub-items where this is possible without loss of focus on the items/sub-items concerned;
  - (b) Items that cover related matters or issues could be considered in agreed clusters;
  - (c) Biennialization and triennialization of items on the agenda of the Main Committees could be considered in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
  - (d) The existing broad division of work among the Main Committees should be maintained.

#### ANNEX II

##### Text to replace paragraph 4 of the annex to resolution 33/138

4. The six Chairmen of the Main Committees shall be elected according to the following pattern:
  - (a) One representative from an African State,

- (b) One representative from an Asian State;
- (c) One representative from an Eastern European State;
- (d) One representative from a Latin American or Caribbean State;
- (e) One representative from a Western European or other State;
- (f) The sixth chairmanship shall rotate over a period of twenty sessions according to the following pattern:
  - (i) One representative from an African State;
  - (ii) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (iii) One representative from a Latin American or Caribbean State;
  - (iv) One representative from an African State;
  - (v) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (vi) One representative from an African State;
  - (vii) One representative from a Latin American or Caribbean State;
  - (viii) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (ix) One representative from an African State;
  - (x) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (xi) One representative from a Latin American or Caribbean State;
  - (xii) One representative from an African State;
  - (xiii) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (xiv) One representative from an African State;
  - (xv) One representative from a Latin American or Caribbean State;
  - (xvi) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (xvii) One representative from an African State;
  - (xviii) One representative from an Asian State;
  - (xix) One representative from a Latin American or Caribbean State;
  - (xx) One representative from an African State.

#### 48/265. Observer status for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta in the General Assembly

##### *The General Assembly.*

*Considering* the long-standing dedication of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta in providing humanitarian assistance and its special role in international humanitarian relations,

*Desirous* of enhancing cooperation between the United Nations and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta,

1. *Decides* to invite the Sovereign Military Order of Malta to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

*103rd plenary meeting  
24 August 1994*