

123. Pattern of conferences¹

A resolution entitled "Pattern of conferences" was adopted by the General Assembly at its twelfth session, in 1957, under the agenda item entitled "Budget estimates for the financial year 1958" (resolution 1202 (XII)). Previously the Assembly had considered the question at its sixth and seventh sessions under the item entitled "Coordination between the United Nations and the specialized agencies" (resolutions 534 (VI), 694 (VII) and 698 (VII)). At its eighth session, it adopted a resolution entitled "Programme of conferences at Headquarters and Geneva" (resolution 790 (VIII)). Since 1962, the item has been included in the agenda of the Assembly at its seventeenth, eighteenth, twentieth to twenty-seventh, and twenty-ninth to fifty-third sessions (resolutions 1851 (XVII), 1987 (XVIII), 2116 (XX), 2239 (XXI), 2361 (XXII), 2478 (XXIII), 2609 (XXIV), 2693 (XXV), 2834 (XXVI), 2960 (XXVII), 3350 (XXIX), 3351 (XXIX), 3491 (XXX), 3529 (XXX), 31/140, 32/71, 32/72, 33/55, 34/50, 35/10, 36/117, 37/14, 38/32 C, 39/68 C, 40/243, 41/177, 42/207, 43/222, 44/196, 45/238, 46/190, 47/202, 48/222, 49/221, 50/206, 51/211, 52/214 and 53/208 A to E and decisions 45/451 and 53/470).

At its twenty-ninth session, in 1974, the General Assembly established the Committee on Conferences, composed of 22 Member States, whose terms of reference included submitting to the Assembly a pattern of conferences, proposing the annual calendar of conferences in accordance with that pattern, acting on behalf of the Assembly between sessions in dealing with requested changes from the calendar and making recommendations concerning the organization of and requirements for conference services (resolution 3351 (XXIX)).

At its forty-third session, the General Assembly decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ composed of 21 members to be appointed by the President of the Assembly, after consultations with the chairmen of the regional groups, for a period of three years (resolution 43/222 B) (see also item 17 (h)).

At its fifty-fourth session,¹⁹⁷ the General Assembly approved the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings for 2000-2001; requested the Secretary-General to provide all the conference services required as a result of decisions taken by the Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, taking into account, as necessary, the procedures established by the Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211; noted with satisfaction that the Secretariat had taken into account the arrangements referred to in paragraph 10 of its Assembly resolution 53/208 A with regard to the two holidays of Id al-Fitr and Id al-Adha; also noted with satisfaction that the Secretariat had taken into account the arrangements referred to in paragraph 11 of resolution 53/208 A concerning Orthodox Good Friday, and requested

¹⁹⁷ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 124):

- (a) Report of the Committee on Conferences: Supplement No. 32 (A/54/32);
- (b) First report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Supplement No. 7 (A/52/7);
- (c) First report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001: Supplement No. 7 (A/54/7);
- (d) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its thirty-eighth session: Supplement No. 16 (A/53/16);
- (e) Reports of the Secretary-General: A/53/221, A/54/176, A/54/208, A/54/221, A/54/262, A/53/257, A/53/833, A/53/919 and Add.1 and 2 and A/52/1000;
- (f) Notes by the Secretary-General: A/C.5/54/28, A/52/685 and A/51/946;
- (g) Report of the Advisory Committee: A/53/669;
- (h) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/54/690 and Add.1 and 2;
- (i) Resolutions 54/248 and 54/259 and decision 54/482;
- (j) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.8, 10, 11, 40, 50, 58, 68 and 74;
- (k) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.88, 95 and 98.

all intergovernmental bodies to observe that decision when planning their meetings; reaffirmed the provisions established in its resolution 50/11 regarding multilingualism; noted that the procedure proposed in paragraph 172 of the report of the Committee on Conferences precluded observers from participating fully in the work of the Committee; invited the Committee on Conferences to keep under review its procedure regarding the participation of observers; encouraged the optimum utilization of conference services in New York, taking into full consideration issues of efficiency and effectiveness, including the limitations of small delegations; emphasized the need to ensure equal opportunity for all Member States to participate fully in meeting their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, and in that connection urged intergovernmental bodies when adopting their programmes of work to avoid as much as possible the scheduling of simultaneous, parallel and/or late night meetings; decided to include all necessary resources in the budget for the biennium 2000-2001 to provide interpretation services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States upon request by those groupings, on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice; decided that full interpretation services, in the six official languages, must be ensured for the meetings of intergovernmental bodies for the full duration of those meetings; expressed concern that the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi were still underutilized; reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to assist all subsidiary bodies of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on Human Settlements to increase their use of the conference facilities at Nairobi; encouraged Member States, intergovernmental bodies, regional and other major groupings and departments to follow the example set by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in holding the Fifth Expert Group Meeting on Financial Issues of Agenda 21 in December 1999 at the United Nations Office at Nairobi; also encouraged all United Nations bodies and expert groups not subject to the headquarters rule to hold some of their meetings at the United Nations Office at Nairobi; discouraged strongly any invitation for hosting meetings that would violate the headquarters rule, in particular for United Nations centres with a low utilization level; requested the Committee on Conferences to consider the possibility of holding its 2000 substantive session at the United Nations Office at Nairobi; decided to establish a permanent interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Nairobi no later than 2001; also decided to strengthen the interpretation service at the United Nations Office at Vienna; requested the Secretary-General to ensure an increase in the utilization of the regional centres in future work programmes; reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to update the administrative instruction of 8 May 1987 on guidelines for the preparation of host government agreements falling under resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985; reiterated its decision that if a report is submitted late to conference services, the reasons therefor should be included in a footnote to the document; requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the texts of resolutions adopted by the Assembly were communicated to Member States within 15 days after the close of the session; also requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the *Official Records* of resolutions adopted by the Assembly included information on the adoption of the resolutions, such as voting records and sponsors, before the text of each resolution, in the six official languages of the Organization; reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that documentation was available in accordance with the six-week rule for the distribution of documents simultaneously in the six official languages of the Assembly; noted with deep concern that the provisions of paragraphs 24 and 25 of section B of its resolution 52/214 and paragraphs 11 and 12 of its resolution 53/208 B were not being fully implemented; recalled its decision in paragraph 2 (b) of section II of its resolution 41/213, and emphasized that, in future, proposed programme budgets should be considered by the Assembly in fascicle form, together with recommendations on them by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on

Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and that the programme budgets should be issued in their final form after approval by the Assembly with the changes to the resource level annexed to the approved programme budget; requested the Secretary-General to publish, prior to the fifty-fifth session of the Assembly, updated versions of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations and the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation in the six official languages of the Organization; also requested the Secretary-General to publish the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations in the six official languages of the Organization when their consolidation is completed; urged intergovernmental bodies when feasible, to become more actively involved in rationalizing their meeting schedules in order to ensure the timely distribution of all related documentation, and requested the Secretary-General to submit proposals based on the reviews; requested the Secretary-General to continue the efforts to utilize new technologies, such as computer-assisted translation, remote translation, terminology databases and speech recognition, in the six official languages so as to enhance further the productivity of conference services; also requested the Secretary-General to continue the efforts to ensure that training opportunities in the six official languages are equally available to all language staff, including those at duty stations away from Headquarters; decided that the use of remote interpretation should not affect the quality of interpretation or in itself lead to any further reduction in language posts, nor would it affect the equal treatment of the six official languages; requested the Secretary-General to ensure that translation, in principle, reflects the specificity of each language; also requested the Secretary-General, in order to improve further the quality of translation of documents issued in the six official languages, to ensure continuous dialogue between translation staff and interpretation staff, among United Nations headquarters at New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, and between translation divisions and Member States with regard to the standardization of the terminology used; requested the Secretary-General to improve and update document access and retrieval from the United Nations web sites and from the optical disk system, equally in the six official languages, at all duty stations; further requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the goal of the equal treatment of the six official languages is taken into account in the course of the continuous development, maintenance and enrichment of United Nations web sites; and called upon representatives of Member States to abide by its decision 38/401 and section E of its resolutions 52/214 and 53/208 (resolution 54/248).

At its fifty-fourth session,¹⁹⁷ the General Assembly endorsed recommendations 2, 3, 10 and 16 to 18 contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (A/51/946); also endorsed recommendations 4 and 6 of the report, subject to the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination contained in paragraph 350 of its report (A/53/16); further endorsed recommendations 13 and 15, as modified by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 19 and 21, respectively, of its report (A/53/669); endorsed recommendation 14, without prejudice to the traditional distribution of printed publications, taking into account paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee; regretted that the provision contained in paragraph 45 of annex II to its resolution 52/220 had not been implemented, and requested the Secretary-General to implement that provision as a matter of priority; and requested that additional efforts be made to improve the linguistic quality and content of United Nations publications concomitantly in all six official languages (resolution 54/259).

At its fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly took note of the report of the Fifth Committee (A/54/690/Add.2) on its consideration of the possibility of holding the 2000

substantive session of the Committee on Conferences at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (decision 54/482).

Documents:

- (a) Report of the Committee on Conferences, Supplement No. 32 (A/55/32);
- (b) Reports of the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States (resolution 54/248, sect. B);
 - (ii) Improved utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (resolution 54/248, sect. B);
 - (iii) Increase in the utilization of the regional centres in future work programmes (resolution 54/248, sect. B);
 - (iv) Proposals on the timely distribution of documentation (resolution 54/248, sect. C);
 - (v) Implementation of recommendations regarding the United Nations Chronicle (resolution 54/259);
 - (vi) Proposals regarding the rationalization of the meeting schedules of intergovernmental bodies to ensure the timely distribution of all related documentation (resolution 54/248);
 - (vii) Assistance provided to increase the use of conference facilities in Nairobi (resolution 54/248).

124. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations¹

The regular budget of the United Nations is apportioned among its Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments approved by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions (see item 17 (b)). This scale, as modified by resolution 3101 (XXVIII) and other resolutions concerning the financing of peacekeeping operations, has also been used to apportion the cost of peacekeeping operations among Member States. The assessment rates used for the regular budget and peacekeeping operations are also used for apportioning the costs of the international tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.

At its fifty-fourth session,¹⁹⁸ the General Assembly, *inter alia*, requested the Committee on Contributions further to consider measures to encourage the timely, full and unconditional payment of assessed contributions other than those covered in paragraphs 69, 70, 73 and 74 of its report and to make appropriate recommendations, pursuant to its general mandate under resolution 14 A (I) of 13 February 1946 (resolution 54/237 B). The Assembly urged all Member States in arrears requesting exemption under Article 19 of the Charter to provide the fullest possible supporting information; and decided that such requests must be submitted to the President of the General Assembly at least two weeks

¹⁹⁸ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 125):

- (a) Report of the Committee on Contributions: Supplement No. 11 (A/54/11);
- (b) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/54/685 and Add.1;
- (c) Resolutions 54/237 A to D and decisions 54/455 A and B;
- (d) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.8, 10, 11, 49 and 58;
- (e) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.3, 88 and 95.

before the session of the Committee on Contributions (resolution 54/237 C). The Assembly requested the Committee on Contributions to submit to it at its fifty-fifth session 12 proposals for a scale of assessments for the period 2001-2003 in accordance with specified elements and criteria; also requested the Committee to examine and report to the Assembly the consequences of the sharply depressed levels of primary commodity prices on commodity-dependent economies and the impact on those countries hosting refugees; and further requested the Committee to provide suggestions to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on how to deal with the effect of discontinuities described in its report, to examine the long-term implications of the present criteria for determining the threshold of the low per capita income adjustment, and to report on possible alternatives to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session. With regard to the threshold of the low per capita income adjustment, the Committee was also requested to respond to a request for alternatives with a view to maintaining in the long run the overall benefit for all developing countries and to avoiding the continuous exclusion of middle-income developing countries from the benefit of the adjustment. The Assembly welcomed the agreement of the Committee on Contributions to consider more systematic approaches to deciding when market exchange rates should be replaced in preparing the scale of assessments, and looked forward to further reports (resolution 54/237 D).

Document: Report of the Committee on Contributions, Supplement No. 11 (A/55/11).

125. Human resources management¹

At its fifty-third session,¹⁹⁹ the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the establishment of a Secretariat-wide integrated human resources planning system under the central authority of the Office of Human Resources Management; requested the Secretary-General to include any problems in increasing staff mobility and possible measures for their solution, as appropriate, in his report on human resources management to be submitted to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session; requested the Secretary-General to report at that session on the progress made on the establishment of mechanisms towards, and on the implementation of a policy of, enhanced mobility across functions, departments and duty stations, and on the possibility of enhancing mobility among organizations of the United Nations system; noted the intention of the Secretary-General to streamline administrative procedures further and to eliminate duplication in relation to human resources management through the delegation of authority to programme managers; requested him to ensure, before delegating such authority, that well-designed mechanisms of accountability, including the necessary internal monitoring and control procedures, as well as training, are put in place, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session; further requested the Secretary-General to continue to improve existing recruitment and placement procedures with a view to making them simpler, more transparent and more timely; noted the intention of the Secretary-General

¹⁹⁹ References for the fifty-third session (agenda item 119):

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General: A/52/814, A/53/342, A/53/375 and Corr.1 and 3, A/53/385, A/53/414, A/53/502 and Add.1, A/53/526 and Add.1 and A/53/548;
- (b) Notes by the Secretary-General: A/53/327, A/53/642 and A/53/849;
- (c) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: A/53/691 and A/53/954;
- (d) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/53/533 and Add.1; A/53/748 and Add.1;
- (e) Resolution 53/221 and decision 53/460;
- (f) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/53/SR.3, 5, 8, 51, 52 and 54;
- (g) Plenary meeting: A/53/PV.97.

to present detailed proposals on the dual-track system of career and non-career appointments, and requested him to submit them to the General Assembly; approved the step-by-step approach to performance recognition set out in paragraphs 24 to 34 of the report of the Secretary-General (document A/53/266), and requested him to submit revised policy proposals to deal systematically and effectively with underperformance; and requested the Secretary-General to continue to submit an annual report on consultants hired by the United Nations during the preceding year, with an indication of their functions (resolution 53/221).

At its fifty-fourth session,²⁰⁰ the General Assembly approved the amendments to the Staff Regulations and Rules set out in the reports of the Secretary-General, and decided to continue its consideration of the item at its resumed fifty-fourth session (decision 54/460 A).

At its resumed fifty-fourth session in April 2000,²⁰⁰ the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item to its fifty-fifth session (decision 54/460 B).

Documents:

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General (resolutions 51/226, 51/243, 53/221), A/55/168;
- (b) Reports of the Advisory Committee.

126. United Nations common system¹

²⁰⁰ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 164):

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Developments in the post structure of the Secretariat over the past 10 years, on the forward-looking human resources management policy intended to be developed in the short and medium term, with a view to rejuvenating the Organization, and on the impact that such a policy should have on developments in post structure in the future: A/53/955;
 - (ii) Implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors in connection with the hiring and use of consultants: A/54/164;
 - (iii) Amendments to the Staff Rules: A/54/272;
 - (iv) Containing the text of the Staff Regulations drafted in gender-neutral terms: A/54/276;
 - (v) Composition of the United Nations Secretariat: A/54/279 and Corr.1;
 - (vi) Consultants and individual contractors hired by the United Nations during 1998: A/C.5/54/4;
 - (vii) List of staff of the United Nations Secretariat: A/C.5/54/L.3;
- (b) Notes by the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Transmitting the comments of the Board of Auditors on the report of the Secretary-General on the hiring and use of consultants: A/54/165;
 - (ii) Containing a consolidated and comprehensive compendium of all administrative circulars on the delegation of authority: A/54/257;
 - (iii) Competitive examination for promotion to the Professional category of staff members from other categories: A/C.5/54/2;
 - (iv) Implementation of proposals on principles of personnel practices and policies: A/C.5/54/21;
- (c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: A/54/450;
- (d) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/54/680 and Add.1;
- (e) Decisions 54/460 A and B;
- (f) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.39, 40, 48 and 58;
- (g) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.88 and 95.

The General Assembly, by its resolution 3042 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, decided in principle to establish an international civil service commission for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system. By its resolution 3357 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974, the General Assembly approved the statute of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). The United Nations common system comprises 13 organizations which have accepted the Commission's statute and which participate in the United Nations common system of salaries and allowances. Other organizations have not formally accepted the statute but fully participate in the Commission's work and/or apply the common system of salaries, allowances and benefits. Under its statute, the Commission is required to submit an annual report to the General Assembly, which is also to be transmitted to the governing organs of the other organizations of the common system, through their executive heads.

The Commission's annual report for 2000 (A/55/30) will respond to a number of requests from the General Assembly at its forty-seventh to fifty-fourth²⁰¹ sessions, including detailed reports on the substantive issues listed below. In addition, the report will also cover issues which the Commission routinely apprises the Assembly of under a standing mandate.

<i>Subject</i>	<i>General Assembly resolution</i>
Review of the rationale, scope, methodology and level of the children's and secondary dependant's allowances	47/216
Review of the purpose, scope and application of the education grant	54/238
Framework for human resources management	51/216, 52/216, 53/209, 54/238
Standards of conduct for the international civil service	52/252, 54/238

127. United Nations pension system

The United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the regulations for which were adopted initially by the General Assembly at its third session, in 1948 (resolution 248 (III)), is administered by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, currently consisting of 33 members, one third of whom are elected by the Assembly and the corresponding legislative bodies of the other member organizations, one third by the executive heads of these organizations and one third by the participants.

The Fund is comprised of the United Nations and 18 other member organizations. As at 31 December 1999, the total number of active participants was 68,935 and there were 46,200 periodic benefits in award.

²⁰¹ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 126):

- (a) Report of the International Civil Service Commission: Supplement No. 30 (A/54/30);
- (b) Statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission (A/54/30): A/54/434;
- (c) Notes by the Secretary-General: A/53/688, A/54/483 and A/C.5/54/24;
- (d) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/54/677;
- (e) Resolution 54/238;
- (f) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.18-20, 26, 28 and 48;
- (g) Plenary meeting: A/54/PV.88.

At its fifty-fifth session, the General Assembly will have before it a report of the fiftieth session of the Board, to be held at Geneva from 5 to 14 July 2000. At that session the Board will meet its obligation under article 14 of the Regulations of the Fund to report to the Assembly on the operations of the Fund at least once every two years. Its major substantive agenda item will be the consideration of actuarial matters, including in particular the results of the actuarial valuation of the Fund as at 31 December 1999. The Board will also have to consider a number of standard items, which are required under either the Fund's Regulations and Rules or the established practice of the Board. These items will include the report of the representative of the Secretary-General on the management of the Fund's investments; financial statements and audit; and administrative expenses.

The Board will also have to report to the General Assembly on certain requests contained in resolution 53/210, adopted by the Assembly at its fifty-third session,²⁰² or in earlier resolutions on the United Nations pension system, on which action had been postponed by the Board, either to await the results of the twenty-fifth actuarial valuation of the Fund as at 31 December 1999 or until certain information was received from member organizations. These items include:

- (a) Form of presentation of results of actuarial valuations, taking into account the views of the Committee of Actuaries and the Board of Auditors (resolution 47/203);
- (b) Review of the interest rate applicable to lump-sum commutations, in the light of the results of the actuarial valuation (resolution 53/210);
- (c) Review of changes made in the United Nations pension system since 1983, to redress the past actuarial deficit, in the light of the results of the actuarial valuation (resolution 53/210);
- (d) Monitoring of the evolution of the actuarial valuation in order to identify if and when a pattern of surpluses emerges and to consider the possibility of reducing the present contribution rate (resolution 53/210);
- (e) Monitoring of the longer-term costs/savings of the recent modifications of the pension adjustment system (resolutions 53/210, 51/217, 47/203 and 46/192);
- (f) Review of the threshold for implementing cost-of-living adjustments with a view towards possibly reducing it from 3 per cent to 2 per cent, subject to a favourable actuarial valuation as at 31 December 1999 (resolution 53/210);
- (g) Review of the status and progress, if any, on the proposed agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (resolutions 53/210 and 51/217);

²⁰² References for the fifty-third session (agenda item 121):

- (a) Reports of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board:
 - (i) On its forty-eighth session: Supplement No. 9 (A/53/9);
 - (ii) On its forty-ninth (special) session: Supplement No. 9 A (A/53/9/Add.1);
- (b) Reports of the Secretary-General: A/C.5/53/3 and A/C.5/53/18;
- (c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions: A/53/511;
- (d) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the application of the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization/General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for withdrawal from the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (A/53/696);
- (e) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/53/736;
- (f) Resolution 53/210;
- (g) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/53/SR.18, 19, 21, 23 and 41;
- (h) Plenary meeting: A/53/PV.93.

(h) Review of the longer-term administrative arrangements of the Fund on the basis of a strategic plan for the Fund's operations (resolutions 53/210 and 51/217);

(i) Review of the implementation of the modifications made to the Regulations in 1998, concerning the entitlements of spouses and former spouses, with a view towards possible further changes (resolutions 53/210 and 51/217);

(j) Review of the composition of the Board and of the Standing Committee in the light of the decision by the Interim Commission for the International Trade Organization to withdraw its membership in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (resolutions 53/210 and 46/192).

Documents:

- (a) Report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, Supplement No. 9 (A/55/9);
- (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;
- (c) Report of the Advisory Committee.

128. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services¹

The Office of Internal Oversight Services was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994, under the authority of the Secretary-General, with a view to strengthening the executive capabilities of the Secretary-General. The purpose of the Office is to assist the Secretary-General in fulfilling his internal oversight responsibilities in respect of the resources and staff of the Organization by means of monitoring, internal audit, inspection and evaluation and investigation of reports of violations of United Nations regulations, rules and pertinent administrative issuances. The Assembly decided that the Office should submit to the Secretary-General, for transmittal as received to the Assembly, together with any separate comments he might deem appropriate, reports providing insight into the effective utilization and management of resources and the protection of assets as well as an analytical and summary report on its activities for the year. The Assembly also decided that the Board of Auditors and the Joint Inspection Unit should be provided with copies of all final reports produced by the Office as well as the comments of the Secretary-General on them, and that those bodies should provide the Assembly with their comments as appropriate. The Assembly further decided to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services".

The General Assembly continued its consideration of the reports of the Office at its forty-ninth to fifty-third sessions under the above-mentioned and other relevant agenda items (resolutions 49/228, 50/214, 50/239, 51/214 A and B, 51/215 A and B, 51/221 B, 51/231, 51/235, 52/8 B and C, 52/190, 52/226 A and B, 52/227, 52/241 and 53/207, and decisions 51/458 A and B, 51/468 and 53/496. At its fifty-third session, it also considered agenda item 145, entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B" (decisions 53/471 A and B).

At its fifty-fourth session,²⁰³ the General Assembly, under agenda item 163, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 48/218 B”, reaffirmed its resolution 48/218 B and decided to evaluate and review at its fifty-ninth session the functions and reporting procedures of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (resolution 54/244).

At its resumed fifty-fourth session in April 2000, under agenda item 118, entitled “Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations”, the General Assembly took note of the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (resolution 54/257).

At the same session, the General Assembly deferred consideration of agenda item 127, “Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services” to its fifty-fifth session (decision 54/478).

Documents:

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 1998-1999: A/55/73 and Add.1 (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 120);
 - (ii) Enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244);
 - (iii) Rules and procedures to be applied for the investigation functions performed by the Office (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244);
 - (iv) Activities of the Office for the period from 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2000 (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244);
- (b) Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services:
 - (i) Strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives: A/55/63 (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) also relates to item 120);
 - (ii) Follow-up audit of the implementation of procurement reform (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 118);
 - (iii) Follow-up audit of the recruitment process in the Office of Human Resources Management (resolution 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 118);
 - (iv) Audit of the management of conference services (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 118);
 - (v) Inspection of programme management in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 118);

²⁰³ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda items 127 and 163):

- (a) Report of the Secretary-General: A/51/801;
- (b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the Office for the period from 1 July 1998 to 30 June 1999 (A/54/393);
- (c) Reports of the Fifth Committee: A/54/673 and A/54/829;
- (d) Resolution 54/244 and decision 54/478;
- (e) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.19, 22, 31, 47 and 58;
- (f) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.88 and 95.

- (vi) Inspection of programme management in the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 118);
- (vii) Experiences learned from the use of resident auditors at peacekeeping missions (resolutions 48/218 B and 54/244) (also relates to item 155).

129. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991¹

This item was included in the agenda of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1993, on the proposal of the Secretary-General (A/47/955). At that session, the Assembly adopted resolution 47/235.

At its forty-eighth to fifty-third sessions, the General Assembly continued its consideration of the item (resolutions 48/251, 49/242 A and B, 50/212 A to C, 51/214 A and B, 52/217 and 53/212, and decisions 48/461 and 49/471 A and B).

At its fifty-fourth session,²⁰⁴ the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to issue, as a matter of priority, the report of the expert review group on the operation and functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, and to obtain comments and observations from the International Tribunal on that report and to submit them, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to the General Assembly for consideration at its resumed fifty-fourth session; decided to appropriate, on a provisional basis, subject to further review at its resumed fifty-fourth session, a total amount of \$106,149,400 gross (\$95,942,600 net) to the Special Account for the International tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the year 2000; and also decided that the appropriation should take into account the unencumbered balance for 1998, the estimated unencumbered balance for 1999 and the estimated income for 2000 (resolution 54/239 A).

²⁰⁴ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 142):

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Fourth annual budget performance report of the International Tribunal: A/54/395;
 - (ii) Financing of the International Tribunal: A/54/518 and Corr.1;
- (b) Notes by the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit and investigation of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia: A/54/120;
 - (ii) On the conditions of service for the judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/C.5/54/30;
 - (iii) Transmitting comments on the report of the Expert Group to Conduct a Review of the Effective Operation and Functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/54/850;
- (c) Identical letters dated 17 November 1999 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly and to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions transmitting a report of the Expert Group to Conduct a Review of the Effective Operation and Functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/54/634;
- (d) Reports of the Advisory Committee: A/54/645 and A/54/874;
- (e) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/54/678 and Add.1;
- (f) Resolutions 54/239 A and B;
- (g) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.45, 46, 48, 71, 72 and 74;
- (h) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.88 and 98.

At its resumed fifty-fourth session in June 2000, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Expert Group to the Security Council for its consideration, and to report, in the context of the budget of the Tribunal for 2001, on actions taken or to be taken to improve the functioning of the Tribunal to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session; confirmed the appropriation approved on a provisional basis in its resolution 54/239 A, and emphasized that the Secretary-General should ensure that the budget proposals for the Tribunal were adequate and conformed with the applicable rules and regulations and the relevant General Assembly resolutions (resolution 54/239 B).

The General Assembly will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the resource requirements of the International Tribunal for 2001.

Documents:

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (resolutions 54/239 A and B);
- (b) Report of the Board of Auditors: A/55/5/Add.12 (see item 117);
- (c) Report of the Advisory Committee.

130. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994¹

This item was included in the agenda of the fiftieth session of the General Assembly, in 1995, pursuant to Assembly resolution 49/251.

At its fifty-first to fifty-third sessions, the General Assembly continued its consideration of the item (resolutions 51/215, 52/218 and 53/213).

At its fifty-fourth session,²⁰⁵ the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to issue, as a matter of priority, the report of the expert review group on the effective operation and functioning of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, and to obtain comments and observations from the International Tribunal on that report and to submit them, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to the General Assembly for consideration at its resumed fifty-fourth session; decided to appropriate, on a provisional basis, subject to further review at its resumed fifty-fourth session, a total amount of \$86,154,900 gross (\$78,170,200 net) to the Special Account for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda for the year 2000; and decided also that that appropriation should take into account the estimated unencumbered balance as at the end of 1999 and the estimated income for 2000 (resolution 54/240 A).

At its resumed fifty-fourth session in June 2000, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Expert Group to the Security Council for its consideration, and to report, in the context of the budget of the Tribunal for 2001, on actions taken or to be taken to improve the functioning of the Tribunal; and confirmed the appropriation approved on a provisional basis in its resolution 54/240 A (resolution 54/240 B).

The General Assembly will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the resource requirements of the International Tribunal for 2001.

Documents:

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda (resolution 54/240);
- (b) Report of the Board of Auditors: A/55/5/Add.11 (see item 117);
- (c) Report of the Advisory Committee.

[The annotations for items 131 to 154 will appear in an addendum to the present document. In its decision 54/465 of 23 December 1999, the General Assembly decided that those items would remain open for consideration at its fifty-fourth session.]

²⁰⁵ References for the fifty-fourth session (agenda item 143):

- (a) Reports of the Secretary-General: A/54/496 and Corr.1 and A/54/521;
- (b) Notes by the Secretary-General:
 - (i) Transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the Follow-up to the 1997 audit and investigation of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/52/784;
 - (ii) On the conditions of service for the judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/C.5/54/30;
 - (iii) Transmitting comments on the report of the Expert Group to Conduct a Review of the Effective Operation and Functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/54/850;
- (c) Identical letters dated 17 November 2000 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly and to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions transmitting a report of the Expert Group to Conduct a Review of the Effective Operation and Functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda: A/54/634;
- (d) Reports of the Advisory Committee: A/54/646 and Add.1 and A/54/874;
- (e) Report of the Fifth Committee: A/54/679 and Add.1;
- (f) Resolutions 54/240 A and B;
- (g) Meetings of the Fifth Committee: A/C.5/54/SR.45, 46, 48, 71, 72 and 74;
- (h) Plenary meetings: A/54/PV.88 and 98.