

The link between mandate creation and the Budget process

Briefing to the IAHWG on the Mandate Implementation Review

Briefing 1 – Mandate creation

13 October 2025

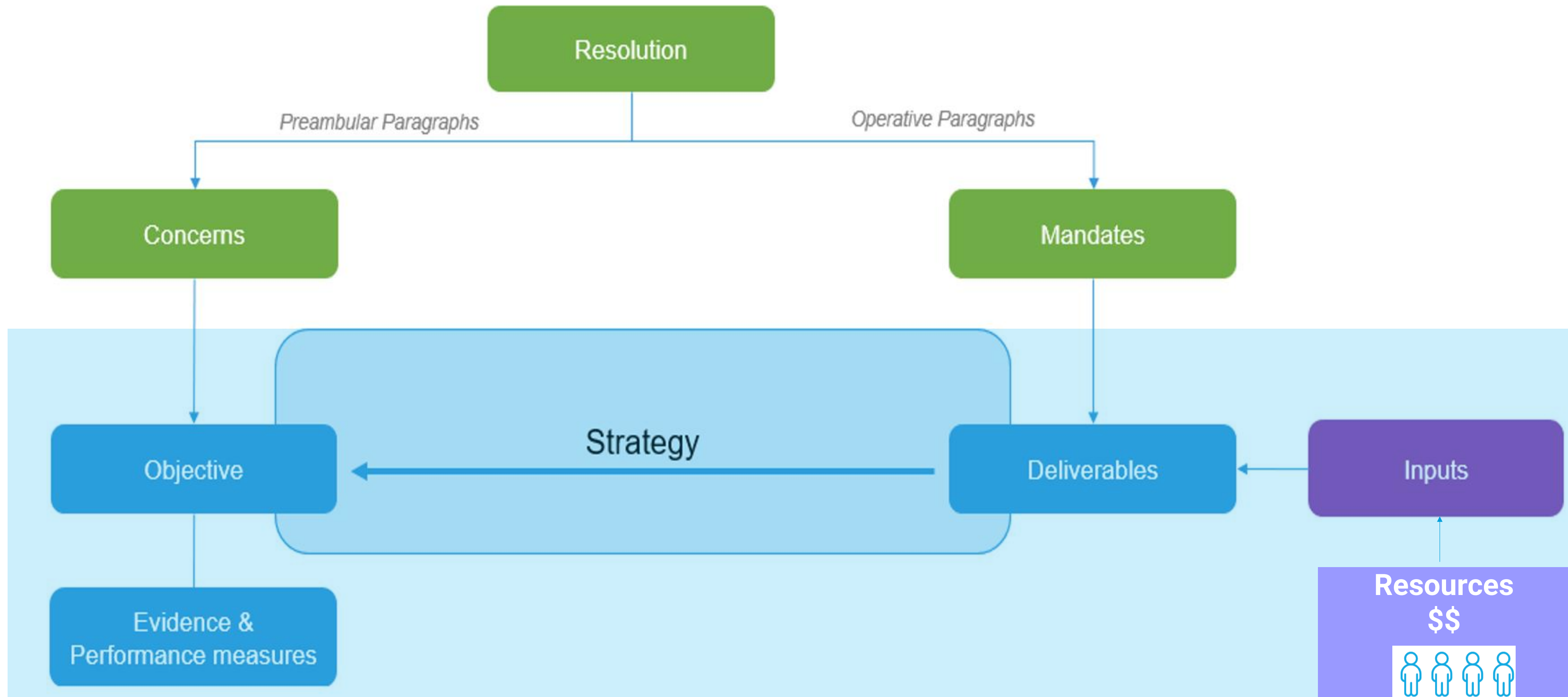
Programme Planning & Budget Division (PPBD)
Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC)

Legislative framework

- ***A Legislative mandate*** is a request for action addressed to the Secretary-General or an executive head acting on his behalf in a **resolution or decision** adopted by a competent United Nations intergovernmental organ (Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, ST/SGB/2018/3 refers);
- ***Budgets*** are driven by requests for action **contained in a resolution or decision** adopted by a competent United Nations intergovernmental organ;
- ***Rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly***
- ***No resolution involving expenditure*** shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General;
- ***No resolution involving expenditures*** shall be voted by the General Assembly until the Fifth Committee has had an opportunity of stating the effect of the proposal upon the budget estimates of the United Nations.



How budgets are derived from Resolutions and Decisions



Programme Budget Implications (PBI) defined

A PBI is:

- ***Prepared in response to a draft resolution (L. document)*** with mandates to the Secretariat to conduct new/expanded activities;
- ***Communicated to Member States*** prior to the adoption of a draft resolution;
- ***Issued as a supplementary budget*** to request additional resources to implement mandates not included in the current approved budget or proposed budget;
- ***Considered by the ACABQ and then by the Fifth Committee;***
- ***Approved by formal decision of the General Assembly*** along side approval of the resolution.

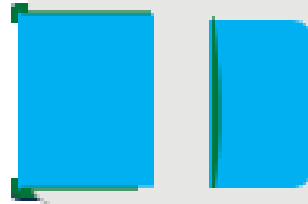
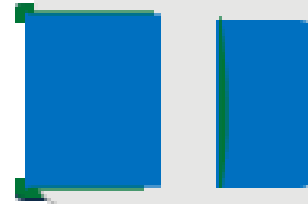
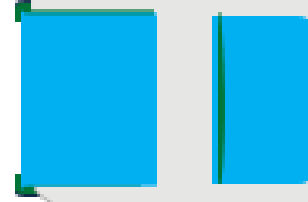
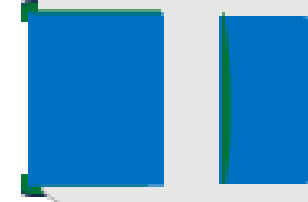
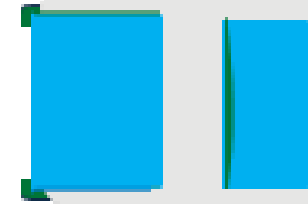
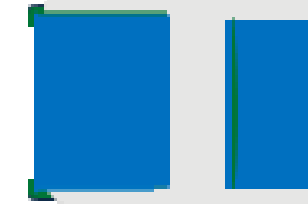


Oral Statements

- The programme budget implications **may be communicated in the form of an Oral Statement** when:
 - the resource implications are not yet known and are pending future decisions by Member States;
 - the resource implications are known and will be communicated in a subsequent Revised Estimates Report, possibly grouping several PBIs;
 - the resource implications relate to a future proposed programme budget not yet issued by the Secretary-General; the resource implications would be proposed in the relevant future proposed programme budget.



Budgetary implications influenced by nuances in language

Condition 1 Binding request for action	Condition 2 New/expanded activities
 Decides...	 A new report of...
 Mandates...	 New consultations...
 Requests...	 Additional meetings...

In contrast to: encourage, call upon, invites, etc.

In contrast to: maintain, continue to, etc.

Illustrative examples

- Invites to explore... **N**
(no conditions met)
- Decides to maintain... **N**
(only condition 1 met)
- Invites a new report **N**
(only condition 2 met)
- Request a new report **Y** (both conditions met; hence, budget implications)



Costing resolutions: Resource changes are proposed if an internal review determines that the activities cannot be absorbed within existing resources

- (c) Decide to establish an intergovernmental preparatory committee to make the organizational, procedural and substantive preparations for the Conference, which will hold a one-day organizational session in the first quarter of 2024 and up to three sessions, of no more than five days each, in 2024 and up to two sessions, of no more than five days each, in 2025, with the last session taking place in New York, on dates to be decided at the organizational session of the intergovernmental preparatory committee;
- (d) Decide that the intergovernmental preparatory committee shall have a Bureau consisting of three members from each regional group and that the committee shall elect two Co-Chairs from among the nominated Bureau members, one from a developed State and one from a developing State, and that the host country and the Chair of the Group of 77 and China shall serve as ex officio members of the Bureau;

Excerpts A/C.2/78/L.59



Additional resource requirements for non-conference services

(United States dollars)

	2024	2025	2024–2025
Section 9, Economic and social affairs			
Other staff costs			
General temporary assistance (1 P-5, 2 P-4, 1 P-3 and 1 General Service (Principal level))	759 300	911 100	1 670 400
Consultants	57 600	57 600	115 200
Travel of staff	20 000	20 000	40 000
Contractual services	20 000	20 000	40 000
Supplies and materials	10 000	10 000	20 000
Total	866 900	1 018 700	1 885 600

Support to Member States in linking mandate creation and the budgetary resources

- **Briefings to main committees on PBI process**

We provide regular briefings to Member States on the PBI process.

- **Support on drafting and/or interpretation of text in resolutions**

We provide guidance and clarify questions Member States may have in the drafting process through the Secretariats of the Committees and the coordinators or co-facilitators of the draft resolution. (In 2024, we reviewed approx. 750 draft resolutions, issued 15 PBIs and 125 oral statements).

- **Improve review and presentation of programme plans**

- We review mandates and deliverables annually to identify those no longer required to be referenced and potential streamlining of activities to ensure effective use of resources in the implementation of mandates. The outcome of the IAHWG on Mandate Implementation Review and proposals under Workstream 3 would provide opportunities for further strengthening programme plans.



Thank you

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