

of the post of Assistant Secretary-General to the level of Under-Secretary-General and the establishment of the post in the Office for Special Political Questions;

VIII

REVISED ESTIMATES UNDER SECTION 5D (DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT), SECTION 5E (OFFICE OF SECRETARIAT SERVICES FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL MATTERS) AND SECTION 22D (OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES)

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates under sections 5D, 5E and 22D of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979⁶⁴ and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁶⁵

2. *Concurs* with the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee in paragraph 12 of its report, on the understanding that the redefinition of functions of the D-1 post will, in particular, include technical servicing of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;

IX

ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A SPECIAL ACCOUNT FOR FINANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment and operation of a special account for financing the implementation of the Plan of Action to Combat Desertification⁶⁶ and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁶⁷

2. *Concurs* with the recommendation made by the Secretary-General in his report, subject to the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 4, 10, 11 and 12 of its report;

X

EXCEPTIONS TO THE PROVISIONS OF
GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 32/209

Approves an exception to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 32/209 of 21 December 1977, relating to expenditure with respect to experts and consultants in the United Nations, in order to provide additional consultant funds for the following activities:

- (a) United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development;
- (b) Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation;
- (c) United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy;
- (d) Protection of natural resources of Namibia;
- (e) Drafting of an International Convention against *Apartheid* in Sports.

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29 January 1979

⁶⁴ A/C.5/33/98.

⁶⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/33/7 and Add.1-39)*, document A/33/7/Add.35.

⁶⁶ A/33/117.

⁶⁷ A/33/552.

33/117. Use of experts and consultants in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision of 18 December 1974, taken at its twenty-ninth session,⁶⁸ by which it outlined principles and guidelines on the use of experts and consultants in the United Nations,

Recalling further its decision of 17 December 1975, taken at its thirtieth session,⁶⁹ as well as its resolutions 31/205 of 22 December 1976 and 32/203 of 21 December 1977, in which it reaffirmed the aforesaid principles and guidelines and called for their full and effective implementation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General⁷⁰ and the related oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷¹

Expressing the view that the comparative data contained in the report of the Secretary-General does not permit the General Assembly to determine whether the existing deficiencies have been corrected or to ascertain fully the status of implementation of the principles and guidelines set by the Assembly,

Taking note of the assurances of the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 22 of his report⁷² and those of his representative at the 9th meeting of the Fifth Committee, on 5 October 1978,⁷²

1. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to eliminate the present deficiencies in the implementation of the principles and guidelines on the use of experts and consultants and to improve upon the existing procedures, so that a proper evaluation of the existing practice in this regard can be carried out;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session a full and comprehensive report on the implementation of the principles and guidelines set by the Assembly;

3. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the views expressed by Member States during the consideration of this item when implementing the principles and guidelines on the use of experts and consultants.

88th plenary meeting
19 December 1978

33/118. Medium-term plan for the period 1980-1983

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/93 of 14 December 1976 on the medium-term plan, as well as resolutions 3534 (XXX) of 17 December 1975 on the presentation of the United Nations programme budget and 32/206 of 21 December 1977 on the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination,

⁶⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 31 (A/9631 and Corr.2)*, pp. 136 and 137, item 73.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, *Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 34 (A/10034)*, p. 145, item 96, subpara. (t).

⁷⁰ A/C.5/33/3.

⁷¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Fifth Committee, 9th meeting*, paras. 34-36.

⁷² *Ibid.*, paras. 38-45.

Recalling its resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system,

Having received the proposed medium-term plan of the United Nations for the period 1980-1983,⁷³ the relevant chapters of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination⁷⁴ and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷⁵ as well as the reports on evaluation submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit,⁷⁶

Mindful of Economic and Social Council decision 1978/84 of 8 November 1978 on the proposed medium-term plan and the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination,

Deploring the unacceptable delay in the submission of the documents on the draft medium-term plan, which hindered its meaningful consideration by the competent intergovernmental organs in accordance with the procedure laid down in General Assembly resolution 31/93,

1. Takes note of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1980-1983 and requests the Secretary-General to use it in the light of the comments of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on individual plan sections as the framework for the preparation of the programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981;

2. Decides to consider at its thirty-fourth session, concurrently with the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981, the recommendations which the Economic and Social Council may make in 1979 concerning the orientation to be given to the programmes of the Organization in the light of paragraph (e) of Council decision 1978/84;

3. Takes note with appreciation of the relevant chapters of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;⁷⁴

4. Welcomes the intention of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination to conduct an in-depth study of the programme planning process during its nineteenth session,⁷⁷ expresses the wish that this study will lead to a solution to the problems stemming from the late distribution of documents and supports the recommendation of the Committee whereby the required documents should be made available at least six weeks prior to the beginning of each session;⁷⁸

5. Approves the recommendations contained in the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on programming and evaluation⁷⁹ in the light of the conclusions of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination⁸⁰ and the observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁸¹ as well as the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination concerning the study by the Secretary-General on the feasibility of establishing time-limited objectives for subprogrammes;⁸²

⁷³ *Ibid.*, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/33/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1).

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38), chaps. I and VIII.

⁷⁵ A/33/345.

⁷⁶ A/33/225, A/33/226; E/1978/41 and Corr.2.

⁷⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38)*, para. 3.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 1.

⁷⁹ A/33/226.

⁸⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38)*, paras. 6-12.

⁸¹ A/33/226/Add.2 and Corr.1.

⁸² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38)*, para. 10.

6. Approves the recommendations contained in the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit on evaluation in the United Nations system,⁸³ as commented on by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination⁸⁴ and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination,⁸⁰ and on evaluation of the programme on public administration and finance,⁸⁵ as commented on by the Secretary-General⁸⁶ and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination;⁸⁷

7. Endorses the guidelines proposed by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on financial information to be included in future medium-term plans;⁸⁸

8. Takes note of the progress report submitted by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 32/197;⁸⁹

9. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination that the introductory survey to the medium-term plan should constitute an analysis of the activities of the Organization and the strategy for their implementation and be prepared by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation under the authority of the Secretary-General;⁹⁰

10. Approves the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on further harmonization of programming in the United Nations system, including the request to the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination to submit detailed proposals for securing an overview of the objectives and plans of the organizations of the system;⁹¹

11. Endorses the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination that the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation be associated with preparation of cross-organizational programme analyses on the lines suggested by the Committee;⁹²

12. Requests the Secretary-General to provide the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination with the necessary technical and substantive services in order that it may be able to fulfil its increased responsibilities and, in particular, carry out the programme of work it has set itself for 1979.

88th plenary meeting
19 December 1978

33/119. Report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Taking note with appreciation of the fourth annual report of the International Civil Service Commission,⁹³

⁸³ A/33/225.

⁸⁴ A/33/225/Add.1.

⁸⁵ A/33/227.

⁸⁶ A/33/227/Add.1.

⁸⁷ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38)*, paras. 15-20.

⁸⁸ A/33/345, paras. 7-11.

⁸⁹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-third Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/33/38)*, para. 101.

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, paras. 51 and 52.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*, paras. 46-49.

⁹² *Ibid.*, para. 28.

⁹³ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 30 (A/33/30) and A/33/30/Add.1.