

32/198. First-class travel in the United Nations organizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962, 2128 (XX) of 21 December 1965 and 2245 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 regarding the system of travel and subsistence allowances to members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 3198 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973 on the standards of accommodation for official travel of United Nations staff,

Aware of the desirability for economy in the conduct of operations of the United Nations,

Conscious of the considerable cost differential between first-class, economy class and other air fares,

Desiring to achieve substantial savings by reducing as far as possible the amount expended on travel by the United Nations,

1. Notes the report on first-class travel in the United Nations organizations submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit⁴¹ and the comments thereon of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination⁴² as well as the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁴³

2. Decides that the principle of seeking the most economical air-fare structures shall be implemented as follows:

(a) The Secretary-General and one representative of each Member State attending regular, special or emergency special sessions of the General Assembly shall be entitled to first-class travel;

(b) Other persons previously entitled to first-class travel under General Assembly resolutions 2245 (XXI) and 3198 (XXVIII) and those chairmen of intergovernmental committees at present entitled to travel paid by the United Nations shall be entitled to first-class travel only when the duration of a particular flight exceeds nine hours (by the most direct and economical route), including scheduled stops for such purposes as change of planes or refuelling, but excluding travel time to and from airports;

(c) Payment by the United Nations for travel expenses in all other cases shall be limited to the least costly air-fare structure regularly available, or its equivalent, by recognized public carrier via the shortest and most direct route;

3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to exercise his discretion in making exceptions in the most exigent circumstances to allow first-class travel on a case-by-case basis;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution, noting all exceptions made under paragraph 3 above, the reasons therefor and the savings achieved through utilization of economy and other air fares.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

⁴¹ See A/32/272.

⁴² See A/32/272/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

⁴³ A/32/384.

32/199. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 7 of its resolution 2924 B (XXVII) of 24 November 1972, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit annually to the General Assembly a succinct report on those major recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit affecting the United Nations which have not been implemented, together with the reasons therefor,

Recalling its decision of 20 November 1975,⁴⁴ in which it, *inter alia*, requested the Secretary-General to give priority to the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit approved by legislative bodies and to provide adequate information thereon in his annual reports,

Having considered the ninth annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit,⁴⁵ the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of major recommendations of the Unit⁴⁶ and the report thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁴⁷

Decides that the future reports of the Secretary-General in implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit should provide concise information only with regard to those reports that have been indicated by the Unit to be of interest to the General Assembly, one of its Main Committees or its other subsidiary organs.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/200. Report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the third annual report of the International Civil Service Commission,⁴⁸ the notes by the Secretary-General thereon⁴⁹ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁵⁰

I

1. Notes the assurance given by the International Civil Service Commission that, in compliance with the request made in section I, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 31/141 B of 17 December 1976, it will continue to keep under continual review the relationship between the levels of remuneration of the comparator national civil service and of the United Nations common system, in particular with respect to any divergencies which might result from the operation of the post adjustment system;

2. Requests the Commission to inform the General Assembly at its thirty-third session of the results of the

⁴⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirtieth Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/10034), p. 147, item 99, para. (d).

⁴⁵ See A/C.5/32/6.

⁴⁶ A/C.5/32/10.

⁴⁷ A/32/258.

⁴⁸ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/32/30).

⁴⁹ A/32/362 and A/C.5/32/48.

⁵⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8A* (A/32/8/Add.1-30), document A/32/8/Add.16.

review, which should include in particular the feasibility of establishing a modified system of post adjustments, taking into account the views expressed in paragraph 229 of its second annual report,⁵¹ and to report on such steps as it may have taken to bring about appropriate corrective action either under the authority and with the means already at its disposal or by submitting a recommendation to the Assembly;

II

1. *Decides* that, with effect from 1 July 1978, the system of post adjustments shall be revised to provide that changes in class of post adjustment are based on index movements of 5 per cent rather than of five points;

2. *Amends* the Staff Regulations of the United Nations, with effect from 1 July 1978, by replacing the schedules of post adjustments provided for in paragraph 9 of annex I to the Regulations by the schedules reproduced in the annex to the present resolution;

3. *Authorizes* the International Civil Service Commission, acting under article 11 of its statute, to take all measures necessary for the implementation of this change;

III

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report on the action taken by the International Civil Service Commission,⁵² under article 12, paragraph 1, of its statute and in compliance with General Assembly resolution 31/193 B of 22 December 1976 with respect to the salaries of the staff in the General Service category at Geneva;

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, *Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/31/30)*, part two, and A/31/30/Add.1.

⁵² *Ibid.*, *Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 30 (A/32/30)*, chap. IV.

2. *Notes with appreciation* the statement by the Secretary-General⁵³ on the basic agreement reached by him and the executive heads of the Geneva-based agencies on accepting the report of the Commission, its findings and recommendations, as well as the basic agreement reached by them on the transitional arrangements required;

3. *Also notes with appreciation* the Secretary-General's intention to implement the decision reached under the authority vested in him by paragraph 7 of annex I to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations;

4. *Invites* the executive heads of all the other Geneva-based organizations to follow the same implementation procedure, subject to their respective constitutional requirements;

5. *Notes* the intention of the Commission to advance the date of its next survey and report on General Service salaries at Geneva so as to make its results available to the executive heads during the year 1980, and to inform the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session of the action taken in this regard;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make maximum efforts to cover the cost of the transitional payments by savings in the implementation of the United Nations budget for 1978-1979, to confine, to this end, the recruitment of staff in the General Service category at Geneva to the areas of priority importance and to keep the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions currently informed of the situation there so as to enable the latter to monitor and comment on it, as required, in the context of the performance reports on the budget for 1978-1979, on the understanding that at least 20 per cent of the transitional payments shall be financed by such savings.

*110th plenary meeting
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⁵³ A/C.5/32/51.