



General Assembly

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Seventy-fourth session Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat considers it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and [32/71](#) of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to draw the attention of the Committee to the information below.

Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, held on 20 September 2019, the General Assembly allocated 26 items to the Sixth Committee. The list of those items, organized under headings corresponding to the priorities of the Organization, is contained in a note by the Secretariat on the allocation of agenda items to the Sixth Committee, which has been circulated as a document of the Committee ([A/C.6/74/1](#)).

Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The table below lists the documents of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Committee,¹ in accordance with requests of Member States. The attention of delegates is also drawn to the website of the Committee.²

¹ The figure in brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on the agenda of the seventy-fourth session. The list of documents is based on information available as at 24 September 2019.

² www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/index.shtml.



	<i>Projected date of issuance</i>
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	No advance documentation
Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts [75]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/83)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/156)	Issued
Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [76]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/142)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/145)	Issued
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-second session [77]	
Report of the Commission (A/74/17)	Issued
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [78]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/___)	Mid-October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-first session [79]	
Report of the Commission (A/74/10)	Issued
Diplomatic protection [80]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/143)	Issued
Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm [81]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/131 and Add.1)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/132)	Issued
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [82]	
Report of the Special Committee (A/74/33)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/74/152)	Issued
Report of the Secretary General on the Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs and Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council (A/74/194)	Issued
The rule of law at the national and international levels [83]	
Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and coordinating United Nations rule of law activities (A/74/139)	Issued

The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction [84]

Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/144)	Issued
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The law of transboundary aquifers [85]	No advance documentation
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Measures to eliminate international terrorism [109]

Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/151)	Issued
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Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [121]

(adoption of a provisional programme of work for the seventy-fourth session) (resolution 58/316)	No advance documentation
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Programme planning [136]

General Assembly resolutions 58/269 , 62/224 , 63/247 , 64/229 , 65/244 , 66/8 , 66/294 , 67/236 , 69/17 , 70/8 , 71/6 , 72/9 and 73/269	Issued
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Administration of justice at the United Nations [146]

Report of the Secretary-General (A/74/172)	Issued
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Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services (A/74/171)	Issued
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Report of the Internal Justice Council (A/74/169)	Issued
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Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [165]

Report of the Committee (A/74/26)	Late October
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Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly [166]

Letter dated 2 May 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/66/141) (see decisions 66/527 , 67/525 , 68/528 , 69/527 , 70/523 , 71/524 , 72/523 and 73/534)	Issued
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Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly [167]

Letter dated 30 April 2015 from the Permanent Representatives of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/70/141) (see decisions 70/524 , 71/525 , 72/524 and 73/535)	Issued
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Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly [168]

Letter dated 10 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/70/142) (see decisions 70/525 , 71/526 , 72/525 and 73/536)	Issued
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Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly [169]

Note verbale dated 11 August 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/72/194](#)) (see decisions 72/526 and 73/537) Issued

Observer status for the Global Environment Facility in the General Assembly [170]

Note verbale dated 12 August 2017 from the Permanent Mission of Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/72/195](#)) (see decisions 72/527 and 73/538) Issued

Observer status for the Group of Seven Plus in the General Assembly [171]

Letter dated 16 July 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/74/214](#)) Issued

Observer status for the International Organization of Employers in the General Assembly [172]

Letter dated 16 August 2019 from the representatives of France, Germany and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/74/291](#)) Issued

Observer status for the International Trade Union Confederation in the General Assembly [173]

Letter dated 16 August 2019 from the representatives of France, Germany and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/74/292](#)) Issued

Observer status for the Boao Forum for Asia in the General Assembly [174]

Letter dated 16 August 2019 from the representatives of China, Cambodia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([A/74/293](#)) Issued

Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item.

5. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [58/316](#) on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Sixth Committee, the Assembly, at its 62nd plenary meeting, held on 20 December 2018,

adopted decision [73/532](#) containing the provisional programme of work of the Committee for the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly.

6. The General Assembly, at its 2nd plenary meeting, held on 20 September 2019, upon the recommendation of the General Committee ([A/74/250](#), para. 22), fixed the target date of 20 November 2019 for the completion of the work of the Sixth Committee. The Bureau of the Committee has considered the provisional programme of work as contained in decision [73/532](#) and has taken into account the allocation of new items to the Committee by the Assembly and the anticipated workload at the present session.

	<i>Approximate dates of consideration</i>
Sixth Committee (organization of work)	7 October
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [109]	7 to 8 October
Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission [76]	9 and 10 October
The rule of law at the national and international levels [83]	10 and 11 October
Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts [75]	11 October
Diplomatic protection [80]	11 October
The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction [84]	14 and 15 October
Administration of justice at the United Nations [146]	15 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [82]	17 October
Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly [166]	18 October
Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Union in the General Assembly [167]	18 October
Observer status for the Community of Democracies in the General Assembly [168]	18 October
Observer status for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Secretariat in the General Assembly [169]	18 October
Observer status for the Global Environment Facility in the General Assembly [170]	18 October
Observer status for the Group of Seven Plus in the General Assembly [171]	18 October
Observer status for the International Organization of Employers in the General Assembly [172]	18 October
Observer status for the International Trade Union Confederation in the General Assembly [173]	18 October
Observer status for the Boao Forum for Asia in the General Assembly [174]	18 October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its fifty-second session [77]	21 October

	<i>Approximate dates of consideration</i>
Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm [81]	22 October
The law of transboundary aquifers [85]	22 October
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [78]	25 October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its seventy-first session [79]	28 October to 1 November, and 5 and 6 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [165]	11 November
Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [121]	12 November
Programme planning [136]	20 November
Election of the officers of the Main Committees [5]	20 November
In reserve	24 October and 7 November

Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. Concerning agenda item 75, entitled “Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts”, the General Assembly, by its resolution [71/133](#), decided to further examine at its seventy-fourth session, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee and with a view to taking a decision, the question of a convention on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts or other appropriate action on the basis of the articles on responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts. In that regard, two meetings, on 14 and 18 October, have been suggested for that purpose.

8. With regard to agenda item 80, entitled “Diplomatic protection”, the General Assembly, by its resolution [71/142](#), decided to continue to examine at its seventy-fourth session, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee, in the light of the written comments of Governments, as well as views expressed in the debates held at the sixty-second, sixty-fifth and sixty-eighth sessions of the Assembly, the question of a convention on diplomatic protection, or any other appropriate action, on the basis of the articles on diplomatic protection and to also identify any difference of opinion on the articles. In that light, two meetings, on 15 and 22 October, have been suggested for that purpose.

9. Regarding agenda item 84, entitled “The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction”, the General Assembly, by its resolution [73/208](#), decided that the Sixth Committee should continue its consideration of the item, without prejudice to the consideration of the topic and related issues in other forums of the United Nations, and for that purpose decided to establish, at its seventy-fourth session, a working group of the Sixth Committee to continue to undertake a thorough discussion of the scope and application of universal jurisdiction. In that regard, two meetings, to be held on 16 and 23 October, have been suggested for that purpose.

10. Concerning agenda item 109, entitled “Measures to eliminate international terrorism”, the General Assembly, by its resolution [73/211](#), decided to recommend that the Sixth Committee, at the seventy-fourth session of the Assembly, establish a

working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as discussions on the item included in its agenda by Assembly resolution 54/110 concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations. In that light, three meetings, to be held on 21 and 25 October and on 6 November, have been suggested for that purpose.

11. The consideration of the reports of the working groups in plenary is scheduled for 11 November. It has also been suggested to hold informal consultations regarding agenda item 146, entitled “Administration of justice at the United Nations”, on 17 October.

12. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee (see para. 14 below), any meetings for the working groups or for informal consultations will have to be accommodated within the overall meetings allocated to the Committee.

Deadline for the submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

13. Pursuant to 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”. It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for their consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee. Since 20 November has been fixed as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 6 above), 6 November would have to be considered the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications, except for draft resolutions concerning items to be considered after that date. When submitting such proposals, delegations may also wish to bear in mind that, in most cases, a period of more than 48 hours is required for the Secretary-General to review the programme budget implications of proposals.

Conference resources available

14. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than 10 plenary meetings per week. Morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 to 6 p.m.

15. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Meetings Management Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management through the Secretary of the Committee.