

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement, in the light of the relevant recommendations and comments of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and in the most appropriate manner, the relative growth rates accepted by the General Assembly as the framework of programme priorities;

3. *Considers* that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, while proposing priorities in its programme review, should continue to limit its recommendations to ranges of growth;

4. *Invites* the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, in its review of the medium-term plan at its eighteenth session, to take into account the above-mentioned consideration;

III

1. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the executive secretaries of the regional commissions concerned, to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session through the Economic and Social Council, in the light of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination and of paragraph 16 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁶⁷ programme proposals for increased activity in the transport programmes of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America, the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and revised estimates to that end;

2. *Decides*, in the light of additional information provided to the General Assembly and of subsequent developments, to defer until its thirty-third session consideration of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination dealing with programme transfers and reductions.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/207. Technological innovations in the production of the publications and documentation of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Concerned about significant costs accruing to all Member States, including direct costs to themselves as well as charges to the United Nations, which result from current methods of producing and distributing the publications and documentation of the United Nations,

1. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts and initiatives to improve documentation and publications services;

2. *Concurs* with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report⁶⁸ to pursue measures proposed by the Secretary-General with regard to technological innovations in the production of the publications and documentation of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to explore and recommend additional measures to improve and expedite the production and distribution of publications

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, document A/32/8/Add.12.

and documentation, using a cautious, step-by-step approach, and in particular requests him to study:

(a) The means to ensure publication of the full official records of sessions of the General Assembly;

(b) Increased revenue from the sale of publications and documentation in recognition of the improved service;

(c) Further limitations on free distribution of publications and documents;

(d) Installation of modern facilities to improve the in-session availability of important documents;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session on the progress achieved in the implementation of approved measures, on the results of further studies and on recommendations for additional measures to improve documentation and publications services.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/208. United Nations accommodation at Nairobi

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3004 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, in which it decided to locate the secretariat of the United Nations Environment Programme in a developing country and further decided to locate it at Nairobi,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations accommodation at Nairobi⁶⁹ and of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;⁷⁰

2. *Accepts with appreciation* the generous grant by the Government of Kenya of the site at Gigiri, Nairobi, upon which to construct the project, subject to a suitable agreement between the Secretary-General and the Government;

3. *Concurs* in the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee;⁷¹

4. *Approves*, in principle, the construction of permanent headquarters facilities for the United Nations Environment Programme and accommodation for the other United Nations offices at Nairobi;

5. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, to proceed in accordance with the recommendations contained in his report;⁷²

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly annually on the status of the project.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/209. Expenditure with respect to experts and consultants in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling that its decision of 18 December 1974,⁷³ taken at its twenty-ninth session, by which it outlined

⁶⁹ A/C.5/32/19 and Add.1.

⁷⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 8A (A/32/8/Add.1-30)*, document A/32/8/Add.10.

⁷¹ *Ibid.*, paras. 10-29.

⁷² A/C.5/32/19, para. 32.

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

principles and guidelines for the use of experts and consultants in the United Nations, provided, *inter alia*, that:

(a) The Secretary-General should ensure that expenditure for consultant services is maintained within the approved figure for 1974-1975 and that no supplementary estimates are presented,

(b) The estimates under this heading in future biennial programme budgets should be prepared with determined restraint, with a view to achieving reductions in the funds requested for this field of activities,

Noting with concern that the aggregate appropriation for experts and consultants proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1978-1979 totals \$11,423,000, compared with approved appropriations for 1974-1975 of \$6,784,000,

Noting that the commendable reduction in proposed expenditure on consultant services envisaged in the estimates for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, in section 5A of the programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979, arising from greater utilization of staff resources available within the Secretariat and highly selective recourse to external assistance,⁷⁴ has not been reflected in the estimates for certain other budget sectors,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to re-examine proposed expenditure on experts and consultants in 1978-1979 following approval of the programme budget with a view to achieving savings in the aggregate allocation for such activities and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-third session;

2. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that no supplementary estimates are presented for expenditure on experts and consultants during the biennium 1978-1979.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/210. Form of presentation of the United Nations budget

The General Assembly,

Having considered the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979,⁷⁵

Taking into account that, by its resolution 3043 (XXVII) of 19 December 1972, it approved on an experimental basis the new form of presentation of the United Nations budget directed towards the establishment of programme budgeting,

Recalling the statement in the second preambular paragraph of that resolution that the new form of presentation constitutes a useful basis for proceeding towards the introduction of a system of programme budgeting in the United Nations,

Recalling also the decision in that resolution to keep under continuous review the progress achieved in the implementation by the Secretary-General of the new form of presentation of the United Nations budget,

Recognizing that an over-all view of the programme budget is essential for a global analysis thereof,

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/32/6 and Corr.1 and 2), vol. I, para. 5A.1.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 6 (A/32/6 and Corr.1 and 2).

Requests the Secretary-General to endeavour, in preparing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1980-1981, to improve its form, content and structure, taking into account the opinions expressed and suggestions made in the Fifth Committee during the general debate on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979, and in particular to submit a summary of the proposed budget containing, *inter alia*, the following information as far as practicable:

(a) The information contained in the foreword and annexes of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979;

(b) Additional relevant information, including that proposed in chapter I of the first report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979;⁷⁶

(c) Expenditure by programme and subprogramme in absolute figures;

(d) Expenditure by programme and organizational unit;

(e) Expenditure by programme and object of expenditure.

*110th plenary meeting
21 December 1977*

32/211. Presentation of the United Nations budget

The General Assembly,

Having noted that, during the consideration of the item entitled "Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979", and especially during the general debate in the Fifth Committee on that item, important problems of principle and method were raised,

Having observed that there is a large measure of agreement concerning the interest in some of these problems and the need to study them further with a view to improving budgetary procedures in the light of the views expressed in the Fifth Committee,

Recalling, in that connexion, the statement made by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee at the Committee's 16th meeting,⁷⁷ as well as the relevant comments of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in its report on the work of its seventeenth session⁷⁸ and the relevant passages of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,⁷⁹

1. *Considers* that the most important of the aforementioned problems relate to:

(a) The need to apply effectively the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 3534 (XXX) of 17 December 1975 and 31/93 of 14 December 1976 concerning programmes, projects and activities that are obsolete, of marginal usefulness or ineffective;

(b) The need to assess more accurately the resources required for programme implementation and

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 8 (A/32/8 and Corr.1).

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, Thirty-second Session, Fifth Committee, 16th meeting, paras. 95-101.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, Thirty-second Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/32/38).

⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, Supplement No. 8 (A/32/8 and Corr. 1), paras. 3-42.