

# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



# UNDP

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GOVERNING COUNCIL  
INTERSESSIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
First session  
13-15 September 1982, New York  
Agenda item 2

S U P P O R T

## ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

### 1. Opening of the meeting and election of officers

The Intersessional Committee of the Whole was established by the Governing Council by decision 82/5, II, of 18 June 1982. The first session will be opened by the President of the Governing Council who, in consultation with the Administrator, convened the Committee in accordance with decision 82/5, II, para. 2. It is suggested that the Committee elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman and a Rapporteur. In considering the election of officers, the Committee may wish to take into account the desirability of ensuring continuity in the membership of the Bureau and to select officers from among those Council members who will continue to serve on the Council in 1983. In accordance with decision 82/5, II, para. 2., the President of the Council is requested to "report to the Council at its thirtieth session on the results of the meeting". It is proposed, however, that a rapporteur be designated to facilitate the preparation of the report on the Committee's work.

### 2. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda of the first session was prepared on the basis of the provisions of decision 82/5, including section I, para. 3; section II, para. 1 (a) and (b); and section IV, para. 6. In considering its agenda, the Committee may wish to examine the organization of its work taking into account the statement by the President of the Council in his letter of 14 July 1982 convening the first session, which reads as follows:

"It was understood, at the time the decision /establishing the Committee/ was adopted, that the Committee would approach its work without preconceived ideas or predetermined conclusions, so that the issues relating to longer term financing can be considered in depth and, at a time of resource shortfall and economic stringency, with creativity and without prejudice to

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future recommendations or decisions. Taking into account the limited time which will be available to the Inter-sessional Committee, it would be my hope that the successive presentation of prepared statements could be avoided, in order to permit a free and fresh discussion of the critical issues involved in a relatively informal environment."

In connection with the organization of its work, the Committee may consider the question of the participation of States not members of the Governing Council as well as of representatives of agencies and organizations as provided for in Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council of UNDP.

#### Documentation

DP/1982/ICW/L.1 and DP/1982/ICW/L.2

3. Review of the financial resource situation, prospects and needs of UNDP for the third programming cycle, in the light of the Governing Council's appeal to all countries, and in particular to those whose previous contributions may have been below their capacity to pledge to step up their voluntary contributions (decision 82/5, I, para.3).

The Committee's study of the longer term financing of UNDP is to be carried out in the light of the resource situation and actual programme requirements. Under this item, the Administrator will update therefore the information provided to the Council at its twenty-ninth session in June 1982 regarding UNDP resources for 1982, prospects for 1983, as well as the resources needed for the third programming cycle, with illustrative rates of implementation. An analysis will be made of the factors affecting actual resources in any given year including variations in exchange rates between pledges and actual payments of contributions, income and loss of assets held, etc., as well as Governments' contributions to UNDP in relation to other programmes, funds and institutions.

#### Documentation

DP/1982/ICW/1; DP/1982/ICW/2 and Add.1; DP/1982/ICW/3.

4. Preliminary consideration of options for longer term financing of UNDP and work programme of the Committee, bearing in mind the need to mobilize increased resources on an increasingly predictable, continuous and assured basis (decision 82/5 II, para. 1(a)).

In accordance with para 1 (a) of decision 82/5, II, the study to be undertaken by the Committee, in consultation with the Administrator, of the options and recommendations for the longer term financing of UNDP contained

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in documents DP/1982/15 and DP/1982/35, is to take into account "the views expressed on these matters, inter alia, in the discussions of the Council". Accordingly, the Administrator is presenting to the Committee a summary of the views expressed.

At its first session, the Committee may wish to identify, in the light of the current method and practice of resource mobilization and in accordance with the principle of voluntary contributions, the various issues and options relating to long-term financing and decide on the type of information which should be available to it prior to its second session in February 1983, in order to study in depth possible options.

Among the measures identified by the Council when establishing the Committee was the consideration of a system of multiyear pledging. It should be noted that in 1980 the Council had examined this matter on the basis of the report of the Inter-governmental Study Group on Future Financing of the Programme (DP/451 and decision 80/47) and that the Governments' position with respect to multiyear pledging might be reviewed in the light of experience since then.

The Council's decision 82/5 also identified "replenishment" as an alternative for the future financing of UNDP. The Committee should therefore give preliminary consideration to such a system, including its legal and organizational aspects, taking into account the experience of other multilateral organizations. Related issues such as "burden sharing" and "ability to pay" could also be examined as well as the modalities of a replenishment system in the context of voluntary contributions. Additional information material, including identification of alternatives, might be sought by the Committee for its more detailed study of these matters at its second session.

Mention was also made by the Council of "assessed contributions" as a means of financing UNDP activities and the Committee will have to examine the feasibility of this alternative and its implications, including its applicability to the Programme Resources, as a whole, or only to resources for "core" expenditures and activities.

Combinations of assessed and voluntary contributions were further options listed by the Council, and the Committee, in the light of its preliminary discussions, may wish to identify and clarify the issues involved in order to facilitate its further examination of potential alternatives.

It is hoped that, as a result of these "free and fresh discussions of the critical issues involved", it will be possible for the Committee to focus attention, at its second session, on those alternatives and options which are most likely to lead to practical proposals and to identify the documentation required to facilitate an in-depth discussion of these issues.

#### Documentation

DP/1982/ICW/4; DP/1982/ICW/2 and Add.1; DP/1982/ICW/5.

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DP/451, DP/ISG/2

DP/1982/5, 15, 35  
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5. Preliminary consideration of other matters which would facilitate resource mobilization and strengthen the effectiveness of the work of the Governing Council (decision 82/5, II, para. 1 (b)).

(a) Strengthening the role of the Council and participating Governments in programme planning and programme review.

As mentioned by the Administrator in his opening statement to the Governing Council at the twenty-ninth session and by a number of Governments in their comments on his proposal contained in DP/1982/15 and DP/1982/35, there is a need to review the current method of work of the Council so as to enhance Governments' guidance in the Programme's activities. A number of suggestions have been made towards this end both before and during the last session of the Governing Council. These include keeping Governments more closely informed during the process of formulating country and intercountry programmes and projects with a view to facilitating the provision of guidance on issues encountered in this process; devising arrangements for a more thorough review of programmes and projects submitted by the Administrator prior to their approval by the Council; providing opportunities for a more effective review of implemented activities in the light of the Programme approvals given by the Council. At its first session, the Committee may wish to identify the various issues and options which might be further studied at its subsequent sessions.

(b) Arrangements for the evaluation of the results and of the effectiveness of the Programme.

The relation between resource mobilization and the objective assessments of the impact and effectiveness of the Programme in the process of development has often been stressed. In the light of comments made by Governments, the Administrator proposed at the last session of the Governing Council that the system of evaluation of UNDP be strengthened, inter alia, through the establishment of an independent evaluation unit. In accordance with decision 82/15 of 18 June 1982, the Administrator is to submit his proposals to the Council at its thirtieth session in June 1983. The Administrator intends to outline to the Intersessional Committee at its April 1983 meeting, the comments and recommendations which he is to present to the Governing Council and to seek the views of the Committee members and of the Executing Agencies at an early stage in the preparation of his report.

(c) Measures to promote a better understanding of UNDP's role and activities and of the resource needs of the Programme.

An often-mentioned constraint affecting resource mobilization for UNDP is the difficulty of conveying a simple and clear image of the Programme's role and contribution in the process of development either to the public at

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large or to those directly involved in the decision-making process which influences the level of individual Government contributions. Other programmes and funds with narrower scopes of activity and specific constituencies have an easier task in promoting a proper understanding of their activities. They also often have greater resources at their disposal for this specific purpose. The Administrator will inform the Committee orally of the current activities for the promotion of a better understanding of UNDP and of the measures to be taken to strengthen such action, taking into account proposals formulated by a UNDP inter-departmental group set up at the beginning of this year. On the basis of the Committee's comments, the Administrator will formulate further recommendations for consideration at the subsequent sessions of the Committee in 1983.

#### Documentation

Items 5(a), (b) and (c) will be discussed at the April 1983 meeting. No documents are being submitted to the present session. However, the Committee may wish to refer to the summary of views expressed by the Council at its twenty-ninth session (DP/1982/ICW/4). *eng DP/1982/ICW/INF.1*

6. Work programme of the Committee for the consideration of other questions contained in document DP/1982/35 which require further study in consultation with the Administrator (decision 82/5, IV. para. 6).

At its twenty-ninth session, the Council examined the proposals of the Administrator contained in DP/1982/35 on additional and alternative means of financing and providing technical co-operation activities using the UNDP system. In decision 82/5, IV, the Council, after "recognizing the role of UNDP as the central funding and co-ordinating instrument in the field of technical co-operation within the United Nations system" removed the ceilings on cost-sharing activities financed by recipient countries but maintained ceilings for third party cost-sharing; re-affirmed its previous decisions on support costs; authorized the lowering of the support cost reimbursement rate relating to projects financed by trust funds in specific cases and authorized, for a period of one year, the acceptance of trust funds conditioned on procurement from donor countries in respect of the operations of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office, United Nations Capital Development Fund and the United Nations Financing System for Science and Technology for Development. The Council also decided that other matters raised in the Administrator's report DP/1982/35 would be "further studied in consultation with the Administrator" and discussed by the Council at its twenty-ninth session. At the time of the adoption of the decision, it was understood that further consultations with the Administrator would take place in the context of the work of the Intersessional Committee of the Whole. The main proposals on which further study is required relates to UNDP's management and other support services on behalf of Governments. They are contained in paragraphs 23 to 30 of DP/1982/35 which is before the Committee. Other

proposals include contributions in cash and in kind as indicated in paragraphs 5 to 7 of DP/1982/35; a system of interest-free loans whereby UNDP would advance funds for project financing reimbursable over a period of years in the currency of the recipient country as described in para. 14 of DP/1982/35 and reimbursable procurement arrangements as outlined in para. 15 of DP/1982/35.

Finally, as the Council's authorization regarding trust funds conditioned on procurement from donor countries for three of the programmes under UNDP administration "shall be automatically terminated at the expiration of one year unless the Governing Council expressly authorizes its continuation", the Administrator intends to consult the Intersessional Committee at its April 1983 meeting on the recommendations which he will present to the Council at its thirtieth session on this matter.

#### Documentation

Item 6 will be reviewed at the April 1983 meeting. No documents are being submitted to the present session. However, the Committee may wish to refer to the summary of views expressed by the Council at its twenty-ninth session (DP/1982/ICW/4).