



**Governing Council
of the
United Nations
Development Programme**

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IN 1988

Provisional agenda and organization of work of the
thirty-fifth session

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with its decision 87/53 of 19 June 1987, the Governing Council will hold its thirty-fifth session at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 6 June to 1 July 1988, subject to review at the organizational meeting, with a view to examining the possibility of shortening the session.

2. Moreover, by its decision 87/50, annex of 19 June 1987, the Governing Council resolved that it intends to take a number of measures with respect to its structure and organization of work so as to increase the overall effectiveness and efficiency of the Council's work. These measures stipulate, inter alia, that:

(a) Whenever possible, Governments should be encouraged to present their proposed UNDP and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) country programmes to the Governing Council at the same session;

(b) Repetition in the presentation and consideration of similar subjects should be avoided, among others, through the consolidation of certain agenda items under a single item (in that connection, the Bureau of the Council suggested last year that, in 1988, UNDP and UNFPA reports dealing with the same subject-matters be taken up by the Council at the same time);

(c) The Council, at its organizational meeting in 1988, will reduce the time allocated for meetings of the Budgetary and Finance Committee, keeping them as far as possible within the target of 30 meetings for budget years and 20 meetings for non-budget years;

(d) The Council will consider how best to schedule its plenary meetings, and the meeting of the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group in order to avoid having more than two meetings take place simultaneously, except in particular circumstances; specifically, simultaneous meetings should be avoided between the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group;

(e) The Council should keep the agreed duration of its annual session to no more than four weeks;

(f) The allocation of three days to the high-level segment should be sufficient, yet further improvements in the timing for the holding of this segment and its policy function should be considered.

3. By its decision 87/20, section I, paragraph 2, of 19 June 1987, the Council had further decided that the Committee of the Whole shall also consider programming matters of UNFPA on an experimental basis, provided that UNFPA and UNDP issues shall not be considered simultaneously.

4. It may also be recalled that the Council, at the conclusion of the thirty-fourth session, agreed to revert, at its organizational meeting for 1988, to the selection of a theme for the high-level segment of the thirty-fifth session. Barring the agreement on a specific theme, the annual report of the Administrator for 1987 and other policy issues will, as last year, again be the focus for the general debate.

5. It should also be noted that, in accordance with Council decision 87/1, annex of 17 February 1987, reports of special funds administered by UNDP other than the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) should be submitted on a biennial basis, i.e. they will next be prepared for the thirty-sixth session of the Council in 1989. In the interim years, basic statistical and financial data on each of the funds will be included in the annual report of the Administrator. The schedule of full reports will be prepared in line with the work programme of the Second Committee of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. In that connection, the Governing Council will receive in 1988 a special report on the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) as called for by the Economic and Social Council.

6. Annex I to this note contains the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-fifth session of the Governing Council of UNDP. This draft provisional agenda is based on Council decision 87/54 of 19 June 1987 entitled "Provisional agenda of the Governing Council at its thirty-fifth session".

7. In annex II to this note, the secretariat is submitting a proposal for the organization of work of the plenary, the Committee of the Whole, the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group for consideration by the Governing Council at its organizational meeting. As last year, it is proposed that the Council begin its session with the item on UNFPA. In view of paragraph 3 above, the Council would resolve itself, after one-and-a-half days of plenary meetings, into the Committee of the Whole to deal with programme matters, beginning with UNFPA programming matters (18 UNFPA country programmes are anticipated) followed by UNDP

programming matters (11 UNDP country programmes and one regional programme are anticipated). The consideration of the various items by plenary, the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group is proposed in such a manner that an overlap of meetings by the various sessional bodies dealing with the same question is avoided. The three-day high-level segment will be scheduled for the second half of the session's second week.

8. The Budgetary and Finance Committee would hold 10 meetings during the first week of the session, 9 meetings during the second week and would then alternate its meetings with those of the Drafting Group thereby avoiding simultaneous meetings. Thus, a total number of 24 substantive meetings (not including the adoption of the draft report) would be scheduled for the Budgetary and Finance Committee during the session. Towards the end of the session, when the plenary is in recess, simultaneous meetings of the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group are envisaged to complete their respective work programmes.

9. This proposal could allow completion of the work of the session two to three days earlier than currently scheduled. This work schedule should be considered as provisional and indicative in character so that the Council may be in a position to take up various items on a more flexible basis. In particular, once it completes consideration of an item before an indicated date, the Council could move immediately to the next item on its work schedule. In any case, the Council may wish to entrust its Bureau with the task of adjusting the schedule of meetings, within the overall allocation of services, as may be required due to the exigencies of the session.

10. All meetings will be scheduled normally from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In that context, it may be recalled that by paragraph 3 (j) of its decision 81/37 of 27 June 1981, the Council decided that its meetings should start promptly at their scheduled times.

11. Pursuant to its decisions 83/5, section III.A of 24 June 1983, 86/23 of 27 June 1986, and 87/20, section I, the Council may wish to allocate to the Committee of the Whole the following subjects for consideration:

- (a) Relevant trends and problems in country programmes;
- (b) Implementation of country programmes in various regions;
- (c) All country and intercountry programmes;
- (d) Global and interregional projects;
- (e) Evaluation matters;
- (f) UNFPA country and intercountry programmes.

12. In addition, the Governing Council, at its organizational meeting, may wish to allocate the following topics to the Committee of the Whole which, in turn, may wish to assign them to its Working Group for consideration in the event it is

decided that the Working Group should hold a session prior to the thirty-fifth session:

- (a) Programme and project quality;
- (b) Proposals for standard modalities of technical co-operation;
- (c) Support to drug control programmes;
- (d) Pre-investment activities;
- (e) Project personnel.

13. In accordance with Council decision 86/1, paragraph (j) of 18 February 1986, the Committee of the Whole will receive at the thirty-fifth session a statement by the Chairman of the Working Group reporting on the work of the Group in 1988.

14. Pursuant to paragraph 3, section III.A of decision 83/5, a written report would be submitted to plenary by the presiding officer of the Committee of the Whole, who would be the President of the Council or another member of the Bureau designated by him. It may be recalled that since 1984, the Presidents of the Council chaired the meetings of the Committee of the Whole and, in conducting the proceedings of these and the plenary meetings, they were assisted by the Vice-Presidents.

15. As in past years, the Administration will make arrangements for the participation of resident representatives in the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole. Moreover, audio-visual presentations are planned in connection with some items both in the context of the Committee of the Whole and the plenary.

16. By paragraph 3 (a) of its decision 81/37, the Council decided to hold a short part of its annual sessions at a high, senior policy maker level for the purpose of considering issues which could provide the necessary dynamism to technical co-operation activities carried out under the supervision of the Council. At its thirty-fourth session, the Council did not agree on a specific theme and agreed to revert to the matter at its organizational meeting for 1988. Should no theme be chosen, it was the understanding that the high-level segment in 1988 would again be devoted to consideration of item 3, Annual report of the Administrator. In the context of this debate, scheduled for the period 13-15 June 1988, delegations may also wish to address themselves to policy aspects related to other items on the agenda, including comments on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 42/196 on operational activities for development, in particular the conclusions and recommendations of the Director-General's report (A/42/326/Add.1) on the findings of case studies (Jansson-report) and certain reports submitted on the implementation of Council decisions adopted at previous sessions, e.g. women in development, co-operation with non-governmental and grass-roots organizations, UNDP experience in human resources development, government execution.

17. In accordance with paragraph 3 (h) of Council decision 81/37, it is proposed that a list of speakers for this three-day general debate be opened on Monday, 25 April 1988 and closed on Monday, 13 June 1988. In line with decision 87/50, annex, statements during the general debate should be limited to 15 minutes. To allow for smooth planning and efficient conduct of the Council's business, separate lists of speakers will also be opened and closed for all other agenda items as appropriate, and as will be announced in the course of the session.

18. In the context of the session, arrangements are being made for audio-visual presentations in connection with the consideration of certain items such as Women in development and Assistance to the Palestinian people.

19. Taking into account past practice, the Governing Council may wish to decide that the First Vice-President of the Council shall serve as Chairman of the Budgetary and Finance Committee. As regards the programme of work of the Committee, the Council may wish to allocate to it items 9 (a) through 9 (g) of the Council's draft provisional agenda. The Council may further wish to allocate to the Committee financial and administrative questions related to item 6, United Nations Population Fund, and to item 8, Other funds and programmes. As in past years, the Committee will also have to review the financial implications of draft decisions before action is taken by the Council, especially in light of decision 86/53. Each year, the Council, at the beginning of its regular session, has referred a number of documents on its agenda having financial implications to the Budgetary and Finance Committee, for prior consideration of these aspects. In 1988, it is proposed that these documents be identified at the organizational meeting so that they may be included at an early stage in the overall work plan for the Committee. In accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of Council decision 81/37, the Committee will have its own agenda and organization of work.

20. In accordance with Council decisions 81/37, paragraph 3 (k), 85/47 and 87/50, annex, arrangements will also be made for the servicing of a Drafting Group of the Council during the thirty-fifth session, including the provision of interpretation services. The Drafting Group is scheduled to meet during the period 13-28 June 1988 and the arrangements therefore are outlined in paragraph 8 above. The Drafting Group will elaborate and finalize draft decisions on those items referred to it by the plenary for the ultimate adoption of such draft decisions by the Council. All draft decisions formulated by the Drafting Group having financial implications would have to be referred to the Budgetary and Finance Committee before action is taken by the Council. The Council may also assign to the Drafting Group other specific tasks, as required. Similar to the practice followed last year, the Council may wish to designate one of its Vice-Presidents to chair the Drafting Group.

21. It may be recalled that by section III of its decision 83/1, the Council enunciated a number of principles which would guide the deliberations of the Drafting Group:

(a) Consideration of draft decisions on the various items will begin only after the debate thereon in plenary has been closed;

(b) The Chairman of the Drafting Group will circulate working papers containing preliminary drafts on the various issues prepared, at his request, by the secretariat, in order to facilitate the drafting of decisions;

(c) All delegations may submit draft decisions on any agenda item not specifically allocated for consideration by the Budgetary and Finance Committee, including subjects already covered in the working papers of the Chairman of the Drafting Group;

(d) In cases where both delegations and the Chairman have circulated draft texts, the Drafting Group will give precedence to the consideration of texts submitted by delegations;

(e) Unless otherwise decided by the Council, draft decisions submitted or sponsored by delegations on items referred to the Drafting Group will be taken up directly by the Drafting Group; the final text of such draft decisions as approved by the Drafting Group will, however, be submitted by the Chairman of the Drafting Group, on its behalf, to the plenary without identifying particular sponsors.

22. Pursuant to decision 87/51, the Administrator has taken further steps to streamline documentation. The Council, at its organizational meeting for 1988, will receive an oral report on measures taken to implement this decision. The attention of the Council is also drawn to the forthcoming document A/INF/43/1 regarding the control and limitation of documentation. This document will be made available to the Council at its thirty-fifth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2438 (XXIV).

ANNEX I

Draft provisional agenda

Thirty-fifth session

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Annual report of the Administrator for 1987.
4. Programme implementation:
 - (a) Implementation of decisions adopted by the Governing Council at previous sessions:
 - (i) Review of thematic programmes established by decisions of the Council:
 - a. UNDP co-operation with non-governmental organizations and grass-root organizations;
 - b. Women in development;
 - c. UNDP experience in human resources development since 1970;
 - (ii) Review of programme and project activities:
 - a. Programme and project quality;
 - b. Government execution;
 - c. Proposals for standard modalities of technical co-operation;
 - d. Project Development Facility;
 - e. Project personnel;
 - (iii) Procurement from developing countries;
 - (iv) Support to drug control programmes;
 - (v) Liquidation of the United Nations Emergency Operations Trust Fund;
 - (b) Special programmes:
 - (i) Assistance to national liberation movements recognized in its area by the Organization of African Unity (OAU);
 - (ii) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

- (iii) Role of UNDP in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development;
 - (c) Evaluation;
 - (d) Pre-investment activities.
5. Programme planning:
- (a) Fourth programming cycle: indicative planning figures, net contributor status and special programme resources;
 - (b) Country and intercountry programmes and projects.
6. United Nations Population Fund.
7. United Nations technical co-operation activities.
8. Other funds and programmes: a/
- (a) Review of the United Nations Volunteers;
 - (b) New arrangements in UNDP in the field of science, technology and energy; b/
 - (c) Replenishment of the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration;
 - (d) United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office:
 - (i) Plan of Action to Combat Desertification;
 - (ii) Recovery and rehabilitation programme in the Sahel region;
 - (e) United Nations Development Fund for Women.
9. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters:
- (a) Annual review of the financial situation, 1987;
 - (b) Revised budget estimates for 1988-1989;
 - (c) Trust funds;
 - (d) UNDP financial regulations;
 - (e) Audit reports;
 - (f) Ex post facto reporting;
 - (g) Other matters.

10. Other matters:

- (a) United Nations system regular and extrabudgetary technical co-operation expenditures;
- (b) Action taken by other organs of the United Nations system in 1987; b/
- (c) Issues arising from action by the General Assembly at its forty-second session. c/

11. Matters relating to the work of the Council in 1989.

Notes

a/ By paragraph 11 of its resolution 36/200, the General Assembly decided that, beginning in 1983, a broad policy review of those funds and programmes which are under the guidance of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme and managed by the Administrator of the Programme be undertaken on a biennial basis, on the understanding that a brief report, including a financial statement, on those funds and programmes should be made available to the Governing Council in the intervening years, and it invited the Governing Council to act accordingly. The Council conducted the last broad policy review of those funds and programmes in 1987.

b/ In this context, the Council may wish to consider its response to resolution 4 (IX) of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology, whereby intergovernmental bodies within the United Nations system were invited to consider the report of the Secretary-General (A/CN.11/84) on policy guidelines for the harmonization of activities of the United Nations system in science and technology for development, and to offer their comments with a view to making it more relevant and useful to the United Nations system as a whole.

c/ In this context, the Council may wish to consider, inter alia, the implications of General Assembly resolutions 42/196 on operational activities for development and 42/187 on the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development.

	MONDAY 6 June 1988		TUESDAY 7 June 1988		WEDNESDAY 8 June 1988		THURSDAY 9 June 1988		FRIDAY 10 June 1988	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
COUNCIL (Plenary)	Opening	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)							
	Organizational matters (2)	General debate (cont'd)	Priority countries (cont'd)							
	UNFPA (6)	Evaluation	Status of CPs							
	Introduction and general debate on annual report	System of priority countries	1989-92 work plan							
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE				UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)	UNDP (5b)	UNDP (5b)	UNDP
				Africa: eight country programmes	Asia: two and Latin America: six country programmes	Middle East: two country programmes Inter-country programmes 1988-1991	Trends + problems in CPs Africa: CP implementation Eight country programmes	Africa (cont'd) Arab States and Europe Progs. Implementation CPs 3 country programmes: Reg. Programme	Arab States and Europe Progs. (cont'd) Asia and Pacific: implementation CPs Latin America and the Caribbean: implementation CPs	Evaluation (4c) Report on WG/COW
BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	Opening	Annual Financial review, 1987 (cont'd)	Audit reports (9e)	Cont'd	Biennial budget (9b)	Revised budget estimates 1988-89: review of support cost line (9b)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)
	Organizational matters		Audited accounts (9e)							
	Statement by Associate Administrator		Audit reports of agencies (9e)							
	Annual Financial review, 1987 (9a)									
DRAFTING GROUP										

	MONDAY 13 June 1988 AM PM		TUESDAY 14 June 1988 AM PM		WEDNESDAY 15 June 1988 AM PM		THURSDAY 16 June 1988 AM PM		FRIDAY 17 June 1988 AM PM	
COUNCIL	HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT (Annual Report of Administrator and other policy issues)		HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT		HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT		United Nations technical co-operation activities (7)	UNV (8a) Science, technology + energy (8b) UNRPNRE (8c)	Previous items (4a) cont'd Procurement from dev. countries (4a) Action taken by other United Nations organs (10b)	Upon report from Cow: Pre-invest (4d) Prog. + Proj. quality (4a) Standard modalities (4a) Project personnel (4a) Drug control (4a)
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE										
BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	Review of support cost: line (cont'd) (9b)	Trust Funds established in 1987 (9c)	Annual review of financial situation, 1987: management services (9a)	<u>Ex-post facto</u> reporting (9f)		Procurement from developing countries (4a)	UNIFEM (8e) and UNEOTF (4a)	UNV (8a)	UNV (cont'd)	Pre-investment from developing countries (4d)
DRAFTING GROUP	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6)								

	MONDAY 27 June 1988 AM PM		TUESDAY 28 June 1988 AM PM		WEDNESDAY 29 June 1988 AM PM		THURSDAY 30 June 1988 AM PM		FRIDAY 1 July 1988 AM PM				
COUNCIL (Plenary)	X		X		Report of COW President	Cont'd Matters relating to Council in 1989 (11)							
					Drafting Group recommen- dations								
					BFC recom- mendations								
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE	X		X		X								
BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	Draft report	Draft report	Draft report	X									
DRAFTING GROUP				X									

