Organizational meeting for 1989
21 February 1989, New York
Item 3 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Progress report on rationalization of the work of the Governing Council, including measures taken concerning documentation.
6. Questions relating to the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole.
7. Other matters.

Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 11 of its rules of procedure (DP/1/Rev.4), the Council will elect a Bureau consisting of a President and four Vice-Presidents. Pursuant to footnote 2 of the same rule, "In electing the Bureau, due account should be taken of the need to ensure equitable geographical representation. In the election of the President, due regard shall be given to the geographical rotation of this office among the different regional groups".
According to the established pattern of rotation of posts among the various regional groups, the President of the Council for 1989 should be elected from among the Council members of the Asia and Pacific States Group.

The Council may also wish to take into account that the President will be required to designate presiding officers for the Council's Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group.

3. Adoption of the agenda

The present provisional agenda and annotations thereto have been prepared in light of past practice, and reflect items which need to be considered pursuant to decisions emanating from previous sessions of the Council.

The list of documents for the organizational meeting and the special session is contained in document DP/1989/1.

The report on the status of documents for the organizational meeting and the special session is contained in document DP/1989/2.

4. Progress report on rationalization of the work of the Governing Council, including measures taken concerning documentation

The Secretary of the Governing Council will report orally on steps taken to implement various decisions of the Council regarding the rationalization of its work, and on measures taken concerning the control and limitation of documentation of the Governing Council.

5. Matters relating to the work of the Governing Council in 1989

The Governing Council will have before it for consideration and approval a note by the secretariat (DP/1989/L.2) containing the draft provisional agenda and annotations for the special session, which is scheduled to begin immediately following the organizational meeting and conclude on 24 February 1989.


The Governing Council will also have before it for consideration and approval a note by the secretariat (DP/1989/L.3) containing the draft provisional agenda and a tentative schedule of work for its thirty-sixth session, scheduled to take place in New York from 5 to 30 June 1989.

In that connection, the Council may wish to consider which items of the provisional agenda will be allocated to the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Committee of the Whole, for their consideration. It might be recalled that, in accordance with paragraph 4 (a) of Council decision 81/37 of 27 June 1981, the Budgetary and Finance Committee will have its own agenda and organization of work, to be issued in a separate document.
The Council will have before it a note by the secretariat containing requests for a waiver to the 10-week deadline for certain documents (DP/1989/5).

6. Questions relating to the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole

By its decision 85/17 of 29 June 1985, the Governing Council decided, inter alia, to establish, on an experimental basis and within existing resources, a Working Group of the Committee of the Whole to facilitate and help expedite the consideration of matters arising from the mandate of the Committee of the Whole, particularly in respect of programming matters, other than country and intercountry programmes. This Working Group is to meet on a regular basis with attendance open to all members of the Programme, and will report to the Committee of the Whole.

The Council further decided that the review of the three-year trial period of the Committee of the Whole scheduled to take place at the thirty-third session of the Governing Council (1986) would be undertaken in the light of additional experience of the Working Group and in the context of the Council's requirement to review programme matters on a continuous basis.

In its decision 86/23 of 27 June 1986, the Council decided to review the experience with the Committee of the Whole and its Working Group at the thirty-fourth session (1987).

At its thirty-fourth session (1987), in section II, paragraph 2 of its decision 87/20 of 19 June 1987, the Council decided "to continue, on an experimental basis, the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole with its present status and mandate as listed in decision 85/17, taking into account paragraph 2 of Section I above, and decision 86/1 of 18 February 1986, and to review its functioning in 1989, in the light of the outcome of the General Assembly's review of the structure and functioning of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations".

In part II of decision 88/59 of 1 July 1988, the Governing Council agreed to include in the agenda of its organizational meeting in 1989 an item on the timing and process of the review of the mandate of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole. This review is to be carried out in June 1989.

The Council will have before it a note by the secretariat on this item (DP/1989/3).

Concerning the election of members of the Working Group, in paragraph (b) of decision 86/1 of 18 February 1986, the Governing Council decided that "the members of the Working Group shall be elected for a term of one year, and shall be eligible for re-election at the end of their term; the election shall take place during the organizational meeting of the Council".

However, bearing in mind that the Council will carry out a review of the Working Group's mandate at its thirty-sixth session in June 1989, and inasmuch as no meeting of the Working Group is foreseen in the period between the organizational meeting and that session (i.e. February-June 1989), the Council may
wish, on an exceptional basis, to defer the election of members of the Working Group until June, when the elections may be conducted in light of the Council's decision on the future of the Working Group.

7. **Other matters**