



**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 1989

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

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with its decision 88/59 of 1 July 1988, the Governing Council will hold its thirty-sixth session at United Nations Headquarters from 5 to 30 June 1989.
2. It may be recalled that, 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 its work. These measures stipulate, inter alia, that:
  - (i) The Council should keep the duration of its annual session to no more than four weeks;
  - (ii) The Council should consider how best to schedule its plenary meetings and the meetings of its Budgetary and Finance Committee and its Drafting Group in order to avoid having more than two meetings take place simultaneously, except in certain circumstances; specifically, simultaneous meetings of the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group should be avoided;
  - (iii) The allocation of three days to the high-level segment should be sufficient; further improvements in the timing of this segment and its policy function should be considered.
3. It may also be noted that, in accordance with 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. Therefore, they will be prepared for the thirty-sixth session of the Council in 1989, except for the United Nations Volunteers programme, which was considered in depth in 1988.

4. Annex I to this note contains the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Governing Council. It is based on Council decision 88/60 of 1 July 1988.

5. 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 in the past two years, it is proposed that the Council begin its session with the item on the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

6. It is therefore proposed that the Council resolve itself, after two days of plenary meetings, into the Committee of the Whole. The Committee of the Whole would begin with UNFPA programming matters (15 UNFPA country programmes are anticipated) which would be followed by UNDP matters.

7. The consideration of the various items by plenary, the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group is proposed in such a manner that simultaneous meetings by the various sessional bodies, dealing with the same matters, would be avoided. The three-day high-level segment would be scheduled for the first three days 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 30 meetings would be scheduled for the Budgetary and Finance Committee during the session. Towards the end of the session, when the plenary would be in recess, simultaneous meetings of the Budgetary and Finance Committee and the Drafting Group are envisaged, in order to complete their respective work programmes.

9. As usual, 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 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, as in the past, 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. Meetings will normally be scheduled 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 of 19 June 1987, 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) UNFPA country and intercountry programmes.

12. In addition, the Governing Council, at its organizational meeting, may wish to decide which other items, if any, to allocate to the Committee of the Whole.

13. 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.

14. As in past years, the administration may make arrangements for the participation of resident representatives in the deliberations of the Council and its Committee of the Whole.

15. 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.

16. It may be recalled that the Council, by paragraph 8 of its decision 88/15 of 1 July 1988, decided to devote the high-level segment of its thirty-sixth session to the issue of the role of the United Nations Development Programme in the 1990s. In the context of this debate, scheduled for the period 12-14 June 1989, delegations may also wish to address themselves to policy aspects related to other items on the agenda 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, successor arrangements, the Working Group as well as the Committee of the Whole of the Governing Council, and Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC). Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 43/182 of 20 December 1988, delegates may wish to address themselves to the question of preparations for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. They may also wish to address other issues emanating from the decisions of the General Assembly at its forty-third session, including operational activities for development and the environment.

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, 24 April 1989 and closed on Monday, 12 June 1989. 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 explored for audio-visual presentations in connection with the consideration of certain agenda items which will be announced closer to the session.

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 that Committee, the Council may wish to allocate to it items 9 (a) through 9 (e) 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 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 items on its agenda having financial implications to the Budgetary and Finance Committee, for prior consideration of these aspects. In 1989, it is proposed that these items 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 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-sixth session, including the provision of interpretation services. The Drafting Group is scheduled to meet during the period 12-29 June 1989 and the arrangements therefore are outlined in paragraph 21 below. 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 in previous years, 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, viz:

(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) 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 1989, 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/44/1 regarding the control and limitation of documentation. This document, prepared by the United Nations Department of Conference Services, will be made available to the Council at its thirty-sixth session in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2538 (XXIV).

Annex I

Draft provisional agenda of the thirty-sixth session

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Policy review: the role of the United Nations Development Programme in the 1990s; annual report of the Administrator for 1988.
4. Programme implementation:
  - (a) Implementation of decisions adopted by the Governing Council at previous sessions:
    - (i) Review of programme and project activities;
    - (ii) Procurement from developing countries;
    - (iii) Support to drug control programmes;
    - (iv) Review of the Working Group of the Committee of the Whole;
  - (b) Special programmes:
    - (i) Assistance to national liberation movements recognized in its area by the Organization of African Unity;
    - (ii) Assistance to the Palestinian people;
    - (iii) Role of the United Nations Development Programme in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990;
  - (c) United Nations Development Programme co-operation with non-governmental organizations and grass-roots organizations;
  - (d) Women in development;
  - (e) Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries/United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
  - (f) Evaluation.

5. Programme planning:

(a) Fourth programming cycle:

(i) Mid-term resource situation\*;

(ii) Assistance to Lebanon;

(b) Country and regional programmes:

(i) Report on mid-term reviews;

(ii) Implementation of selected country programmes;

(iii) Global and interregional projects.

6. United Nations Population Fund.

7. United Nations technical co-operation activities.

8. Other funds and programmes:

(a) Focal point for short-term advisory services;

(b) United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development;

(c) 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 Sudano-Sahelian region;

(e) United Nations Development Fund for Women;

(f) United Nations Capital Development Fund;

(g) Technical co-operation among developing countries;

(h) Financial structure of the system administered by the United Nations Development Programme.

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\* If required in light of action at the special session,  
21-24 February 1989.

9. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters:

- (a) Annual review of the financial situation, 1988;
- (b) Budget estimates for 1990-1991;
- (c) Trust funds;
- (d) Audit reports;
- (e) Other matters.

10. Other matters:

- (a) United Nations system regular and extrabudgetary technical co-operation expenditures;
- (b) Issues of concern to the Governing Council arising from General Assembly action at its forty-third session;
- (c) Action taken by other organs of the United Nations system in 1988;
- (d) Environment.

11. Matters relating to the work of the Council in 1990.

Note

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.



## ANNEX II

Week 1

	MONDAY 5 June 1989		TUESDAY 6 June 1989		WEDNESDAY 7 June 1989		THURSDAY 8 June 1989		FRIDAY 9 June 1989	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
	<b>PLENARY</b>	Opening of the session (1)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)					
	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (2)	debate (6) (cont'd)								
	UNFPA (6)									
	Introduction and general debate									
<b>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</b>					UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNDP Programme planning (5 (b))	UNDP (5 (b)) (cont'd)
									(i) Mid-term reviews	
									(ii) Selected country programmes	
									(iii) Global projects	
<b>BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	Opening	(9 (a)) (cont'd)	Audit reports (9 (d))	(9 (d)) (cont'd)	Biennial budget (9 (b))	(9 (b)) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)	UNFPA (6) (cont'd)
	Organizational matters									
	Statement by Associate Administrator									
	Annual financial review, 1988 (9 (a))									
<b>DRAFTING GROUP</b>										

	MONDAY 12 June 1989	TUESDAY 13 June 1989	WEDNESDAY 14 June 1989	THURSDAY 15 June 1989	FRIDAY 16 June 1989
	AM : PM	AM : PM	AM : PM	AM : PM	AM : PM
PLENARY		HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT <u>The role of UNDP in the 1990s</u> (3)		Review of Working Group (and of the Committee of the Whole) (4 (a) (iv))	Review of programme and project activities (4 (a) (i)) Mid-term resource situation (5 (a) (i)) Assistance to Lebanon (5 (a) (ii))
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE					
BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	:UNDP (9)	:UNDP (9)	:UNDP (9)	:UNDP (9)	:UNDP (9)
DRAFTING GROUP	:UNFPA (6) :UNFPA (6) :(cont'd)			Meeting	Meeting

\* A more detailed timetable will be issued for the Budgetary and Finance Committee.

	MONDAY 19 June 1989		TUESDAY 20 June 1989		WEDNESDAY 21 June 1989		THURSDAY 22 June 1989		FRIDAY 23 June 1989	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
PLENARY	United Nations: tech. co-op. activities (7)	(7) (cont'd)	UNIFEM (8 (e)): Women in Development (4 (d)) NGOs/Grass- roots (4 (c))	Other funds (8) (a) Short-term advisory services (b) UN Revol- ving Fund for Science and Tech. for Development (c) UN Fund for Natural Resources Exploration	(f) UNCDF Drug control (4 (a) (iii))	(g) TCDC Procurement (4 (a) (ii))	SMF/UN Conference for LDCs (4 (e)) Financial structure of UNDP- administered system (8 (h))	Assistance to the Palestinian people (4 (b) (ii))	UN system regular and extrabudgetary technical co-operation activities (10 (a)) Issues of concern to Governing Council from 43rd GA (10 (b))	Actions taken by other organs of the UN system in 1988 (10 (c)) Environment (10 (d))
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE										
BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	UNDP (9)		UNDP (9)		UNDP (9)		UNDP (9)		UNDP (9)	
DRAFTING GROUP		Meeting		Meeting		Meeting		Meeting		Meeting

\* A more detailed timetable will be issued for the Budgetary and Finance Committee.

	MONDAY 26 June 1989		TUESDAY 27 June 1989		WEDNESDAY 28 June 1989		THURSDAY 29 June 1989		FRIDAY 30 June 1989	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
PLENARY					Report by President of the Committee of the Whole		Drafting Group recom- mendations		BFC Report and recommenda- tions	BFC Report and recommenda- tions
					Matters relating to the work of the Council in 1990 (11)					Closure of the session
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE										
BUDGETARY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE	UNDP (9)	UNDP (9)	UNDP (9)	Draft report	Draft report	Draft report				
DRAFTING GROUP	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting	Meeting			