I. OPENING OF THE MEETING, ELECTION OF THE RAPPORTEUR, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

1. The Standing Committee for Programme Matters held an in-sessional meeting during the resumed thirty-eighth session of the Governing Council, convened in New York from 16 to 18 September 1991. The fourth Vice-President of the Governing Council, Mr. Robert K. Gathungu of Kenya, served as Chairman of the Standing Committee. Mr. Ivo Sieber of Switzerland was elected Rapporteur.

2. At its first meeting, on 16 September 1991, the Standing Committee for Programme Matters adopted its provisional agenda and tentative schedule of work contained in annexes I and II of document DP/1991/L.15. The Standing Committee also agreed to maintain a flexible schedule of work and to organize informal sessions on 17 September 1991.

II. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME MATTERS BY THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

3. The Standing Committee for Programme Matters had before it for its consideration the following documents: report of the Administrator on Special Programme Resources: Overview and programming documents (DP/1991/64 and
Add.1); Special Programme Resources: Programming document (DP/1991/64/Add.2). The Standing Committee also had before it copies of responses by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on written comments submitted by one delegation on 15 of the programmes.

4. The session was convened to consider the proposals of the Administrator regarding the allocation of resources under the Special Programme Resources (SPR) in the context of preparations for the fifth programming cycle, including funding strategy. These proposals had been made in the light of recommendations made by the Standing Committee for Programme Matters at its in-sessional meeting in February 1991 and submitted to the Governing Council at its thirty-eighth session. However, because of the shortage of time at the thirty-eighth session of the Council, and in view of the need for further review by delegations, full discussion was postponed until the resumed thirty-eighth session.

5. Document DP/1991/64/Add.2 included funding proposals for a total of 25 programmes in six categories for a total of $313 million, including funds for contingencies. These categories related to: (a) Disaster mitigation (four programmes, $50 million); (b) Thematic activities (six programmes, $115 million); (c) Other special and/or new activities (9 programmes, $53 million); (d) Aid coordination (three programmes, $35 million); (e) Programme development (three programmes, $29 million); (f) Assistance to the Palestinian people ($15 million); and (g) Contingencies ($16 million). A full list of these proposals is given in annex 1 of the present report.