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GOVERNING COUNCIL
INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON OVERHEAD COSTS
First meeting
January 1978

AGENCY OVERHEAD COSTS

Views of the United Nations

Note by the Administrator

At the request of the President of the Governing Council, the Administrator transmits herewith to the intergovernmental Working Group on Overhead Costs the comments submitted by the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations on the subject of overhead costs.

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Comments by the United Nations on the Question of Overheads

Operational paragraph No. 2 of the Governing Council's decision at its 588th meeting, on 29 June 1977, invited the Executing Agencies to submit, through the Administrator of UNDP to the President of the Governing Council, their views on the question of overheads.

In this connexion we wish to recall that the General Assembly, at its 2444th plenary meeting on 17 December 1975, adopted a draft decision recommended by the Fifth Committee which requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Thirty-first Session of the Assembly proposals regarding a more equitable distribution of the costs of services provided by the United Nations to activities funded from extrabudgetary resources. The Secretary-General's report was submitted to the Assembly in the fall of 1976 under document No. A/C.5/31/33. The Fifth Committee, at its 57th meeting on 20 December 1976, decided to defer consideration of the report until its Thirty-second session and requested the Secretary-General to resubmit his report together with a supplement updating its content. The supplementary report was issued under document No. A/C.5/32/29 and submitted together with the original report (A/C.5/31/33) to the General Assembly in the fall of 1977.

Since the views of the United Nations on the question of overheads are thus already on record, we wish only to draw to your attention the existence of the two above-mentioned reports by the Secretary-General.

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