



Seventy-fifth session
Agenda item 142
Programme planning

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 31 December 2020

[on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/75/666, para. 16)]

75/243. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [37/234](#) of 21 December 1982, [38/227 A](#) of 20 December 1983, [41/213](#) of 19 December 1986, [55/234](#) of 23 December 2000, [56/253](#) of 24 December 2001, [57/282](#) of 20 December 2002, [58/268](#) and [58/269](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/275](#) of 23 December 2004, [60/257](#) of 8 May 2006, [61/235](#) of 22 December 2006, [62/224](#) of 22 December 2007, [63/247](#) of 24 December 2008, [64/229](#) of 22 December 2009, [65/244](#) of 24 December 2010, [66/8](#) of 11 November 2011, [67/236](#) of 24 December 2012, [68/20](#) of 4 December 2013, [69/17](#) of 18 November 2014, [70/8](#) of 13 November 2015, [71/6](#) of 27 October 2016, [72/9](#) of 17 November 2017, [72/266 A](#) of 24 December 2017, [72/266 B](#) of 5 July 2018, section III of its resolution [72/262 C](#) of 5 July 2018 and its resolutions [73/269](#) of 22 December 2018 and [74/251](#) of 27 December 2019,

Recalling also the terms of reference of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as outlined in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [2008 \(LX\)](#) of 14 May 1976,

Recalling further the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,¹ by which the relevant programmes and subprogrammes of the proposed strategic framework shall be reviewed by the relevant sectoral, functional and regional intergovernmental bodies, if possible during the regular cycle of their meetings,

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its sixtieth session² and the reports of the Secretary-

¹ [ST/SGB/2018/3](#).

² *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/75/16)*.



General on the proposed programme budget for 2021: part II, proposed programme plan for 2021 and programme performance for 2019,³

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;
2. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in verifying that the programmes of activities of the Organization are implemented in line with the legislative mandates and that the full implementation of regulations and rules is ensured;
3. *Re-emphasizes* the role of the plenary and the Main Committees of the General Assembly in reviewing and taking action on the appropriate recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work, in accordance with regulation 4.10 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;
4. *Stresses* that setting the priorities of the United Nations is the prerogative of the Member States, as reflected in legislative mandates;
5. *Reiterates* the need for Member States to participate fully in the budget preparation process, from its early stages and throughout the process;
6. *Recalls* its resolution [72/266 A](#), in which it approved the change from a biennial to an annual budget period on a trial basis, beginning with the programme budget for 2020;
7. *Also recalls* paragraph 13 of its resolution [72/266 A](#), and reaffirms that no changes to the budget methodology, established budgetary procedures and practices or the financial regulations may be implemented without prior review and approval by the General Assembly in accordance with established budgetary procedures;
8. *Recommends* that the Committee for Programme and Coordination, in accordance with its mandate, provide recommendations on all programmes of the proposed programme budget;
9. *Confirms* that, in the rare event that the Committee for Programme and Coordination cannot provide conclusions and recommendations on a given subprogramme or programme of the proposed programme budget, the plenary or the relevant Main Committee or Main Committees of the General Assembly responsible for those mandates will have the subprogramme or programme before it in order to provide any conclusions and recommendations on the said subprogramme or programme to the Fifth Committee, at the earliest opportunity, for timely consideration by the Committee;
10. *Expresses its support* for the efforts of the Secretariat to better engage and support programme managers with the aim of making the Organization more effective, and welcomes the commitment and ongoing efforts of the Secretariat to improve the programmatic aspects of the programme budget;

³ [A/75/6 \(Sect. 2\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 3\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 4\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 5\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 6\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 8\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 9\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 10\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 11\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 12\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 13\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 14\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 15\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 16\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 16\)/Corr.1](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 17\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 18\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 19\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 20\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 21\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 22\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 24\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 25\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 26\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 27\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 27\)/Corr.1](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 28\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29A\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29B\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29C\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29E\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29F\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29G\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 29G\)/Corr.1](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 30\)](#), [A/75/6 \(Sect. 31\)](#) and [A/75/6 \(Sect. 34\)](#).

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that results and, where possible, performance measures actually reflect achievements and impacts in the implementation of the programmes of the Organization and not those of individual Member States;
12. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the proposed programme plan for 2021 and programme performance for 2019, contained in its report on the work of its sixtieth session, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;
13. *Approves*, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, for programmes 3, 7, 13, 14, 20, 23 and 25 of the proposed programme budget for 2021, a programme narrative that is composed solely of the list of mandates at the programme level and the objectives approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 71/6 and the deliverables for 2021 at the subprogramme level;
14. *Also approves*, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, in the case of the programmes mentioned in paragraph 13 above, where new mandates imply changes to the objectives at the subprogramme level as approved in their agreed formulation under its resolution 71/6, the relevant objectives as updated in the proposed programme budget for 2021;
15. *Further approves* the programme plan for programme 6, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2021, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;⁴
16. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,⁵ contained in its report on the work of its sixtieth session, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the timely implementation of the recommendations.

*48th (resumed) plenary meeting
31 December 2020*

⁴ A/75/6 (Sect. 8).

⁵ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/75/16)*, chap. III.