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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Seventy-fifth Session

Rome, 18 - 22 March 2019

Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

Mr David McSherry
Secretary, Finance Committee
Telephone: +3906 5705 3719

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FC 175

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This document presents the updated status of outstanding recommendations made by the Committee at its previous sessions.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Committee is invited to take note of the information presented in this document..

Draft Advice

- **The Committee took note of the Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee and looked forward to receiving an updated version of the document at its next regular session.**

Recommendation	Status
MONITORING FINANCIAL POSITION	
Report of the 173rd Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 160/4	
The Committee (on the <i>Audited – FAO Commissary 2017</i>) noted the information provided by the Secretariat on the ongoing review of a future business model for the Commissary and looked forward to further updates at its next session – paragraph 15.	Update to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.
Report of the 170th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 159/4	
The Committee (on the <i>Report on Investments 2017</i>) looked forward to receiving information on the results of the Asset and Liability (ALM) study in the 2018 Report on Investments - paragraph 10	Information will be provided with the Report on Investments 2018 to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.
The Committee (on the <i>2017 Actuarial Valuation of Staff Related Liabilities</i>) requested the Secretariat to consider decreasing the frequency of performance of actuarial valuations in consultation with the External Auditor - paragraph 12	Information will be provided with the 2018 Actuarial Valuation of Staff Related Liabilities to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.
HUMAN RESOURCES	
Report of the 173rd Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 160/4	
The Committee (on <i>Human Resources Management</i>) looked forward to receiving, at a future session, information on the recommendations arising from the review recently completed by the Inspector General on “Recruitment and Onboarding of Professional Staff” as input towards further HR management improvements in the Organization – paragraph 21.	Information to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC under the item on Human Resources Management.
The Committee (on <i>Geographic Balance of Consultants</i>) requested that future progress reports fully conform with requests made and guidance given by the Council, especially in providing detailed information on: (i) the criteria followed in the hiring of consultants; (ii) the breakdown of consultants	An updated progress report to be presented at a future session of the FC.

Recommendation	Status
rosters by region, category, competency, and linguistic diversity; (iii) the flexible approach in the selection process; and (iv) the cost impact of the measures – paragraph 23.	
OVERSIGHT	
Report of the 173rd Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 160/4	
The Committee (<i>on the Progress Report on Implementation of the FAO Audit Committee Recommendations</i>) looked forward to a further update on the progress made when the Audit Committee's 2018 annual report is presented at the Committee's 174th session in March 2019 – paragraph 31.	Update will be presented with the FAO Audit Committee 2018 Annual Report to the March 2019 Session of the FC.
The Committee (<i>on the Progress on Implementation of the Recommendations of the Joint Inspection Report (JIU) on Fraud Prevention, Detection and Response in United Nations System Organizations</i>) looked forward to receiving further information on the implementation of the fraud prevention strategy as part of the 2018 Statement of Internal Control (SIC) process – paragraph 35.	Update to be presented to the November 2019 Session of the FC when the next SIC is presented.
<p>The Committee (<i>on the Review of whistle-blower policies and practices in United Nations Systems Organizations</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - requested the Secretariat to undertake a review of the independence of the Ethics Office, OIG, and ombudsperson functions as soon as possible; - recalled the request made at the 154th Session of the Council for annual reporting of the Ethics Office to the Finance Committee; and - noted that the complete document including the consolidated comments of the CEB and FAO comments would be available for the Committee's 174th Session in March 2019 and agreed to consider it and proposed follow-up actions on these recommendations at that time. - paragraph 39 	<p>Document on the review of the independence of the Ethics Office, OIG, and ombudsperson functions to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.</p> <p>Document to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.</p>

Recommendation	Status
Report of the 169th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 158/7	
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Terms of Reference of the FAO Audit Committee</i>):</p> <p>- requested the Secretariat to review the selection process of Audit Committee members and present options at the Committee’s next regular session regarding the future selection of members taking into account best practices of other UN Organizations - paragraph 31</p>	<p>Additional information on the selection process included with recommendations for appointment to the FAO Audit Committee to be presented in March 2019.</p>
OTHER MATTERS	
Report of the 173rd Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 160/4	
<p>The Committee (on <i>Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee</i> looked forward to considering an updated version of the document at its 174th Session in March 2019 – paragraph 41.</p>	<p>Document to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Working Methods of the Committee</i>) requested the Secretariat to review the scheduling on the timetable of the Report of the External Auditor to facilitate its efficient discussion – paragraph 43</p>	<p>To be considered on presentation of the Report of the External Auditor to the November 2019 Session of the FC.</p>
Report of the 170th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 159/4	
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Representation Allowance for Deputy Directors-General and Assistant Directors-General</i>) requested the Secretariat to submit to the March 2019 Session of the Committee a proposal on future levels and conditions for the allowance – paragraph 34</p>	<p>Document to be presented to the March 2019 Session of the FC.</p>