



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
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联合国
粮食及
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Food
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Продовольственная и
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организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

CONFERENCE

Thirty-fifth (Special) Session

Rome, 18 – 22 November 2008

REPLENISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL RESERVE ACCOUNT

Executive Summary

1. At its 2007 meeting, Conference considered replenishment of the Special Reserve Account in the amount of USD 6.4 million, following recommendation from the Finance Committee and the Council. Conference decided to defer this replenishment and revisit the matter at its 2008 Session.
2. In May 2008, the Finance Committee noted that the Special Reserve Account had a balance of USD 25.6 million as at 31 December 2007 and recommended that proposals for replenishment of reserves be developed in the context of the Programme of Work and Budget for the 2010-11 biennium and future biennia.
3. Members may therefore wish to note that proposals for replenishment of the Special Reserve Account will be submitted to the 2009 Conference through the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11.

1. The Finance and Programme Committees, at their Joint Meeting in September 2006, recommended that partial funding of the General Service salary increase of 2006-07 be charged to the Special Reserve Account.¹ Council, at its 131st Session in November 2006, supported this recommendation.²

2. The Finance Committee, noting at its 115th Session in September 2006 that the Special Reserve Account had a zero balance, recommended that commensurate funding be secured for the Special Reserve Account by a replenishment in the amount of USD 6.4 million through Member Nations' assessments at the time of the formulation of the Programme of Work and Budget for the 2008-09 biennium.³

3. At its November 2007 meeting, Conference discussed the replenishment of the Special Reserve Account in the context of its deliberations of the Programme of Work and Budget proposals for the 2008-09 biennium. It decided to postpone the matter of replenishment of the Special Reserve Account and to review the issue at its meeting in November 2008.⁴

“THE CONFERENCE...Decides to defer the replenishment of the Special Reserve Account, in the amount of US\$ 6.4 million, and to revisit this matter at the 2008 Conference.”

4. The Finance Committee, at its 122nd Session in May 2008, noting that the Special Reserve Account had a balance of USD 25.6 million as at 31 December 2007, expressed the view that proposals for replenishment of reserves be developed within the 2010-11 Programme of Work and Budget (PWB) submission, as well as future biennial PWBs:⁵

“...many Members reiterated the need for proposals to replenish the reserves to levels consistent with the existing operating requirements of the Organization. The Committee resolved to inform the Council of the current severe financial situation of the Organization, and to develop proposals to begin replenishing reserves in the context of the PWB 2010-11 and future PWBs.”

5. Members may therefore wish to note that proposals for replenishment of the Special Reserve Account will be submitted to the 2009 Conference through the Programme of Work and Budget 2010-11. In connection with development of proposals for the Organization's reserves, the Secretariat will also examine the function, purpose and accounting treatment of reserves in the context of IPSAS requirements. Relevant Financial Regulations and Conference resolutions will be reviewed, and any proposals for revision submitted to the Finance Committee.

¹ ref. CL 131/14, para. 18

² ref. CL 131/REP, para. 37

³ ref. CL 131/7, para. 43

⁴ Resolution 4/2007, ref. C 2007/REP, para. 103

⁵ ref. CL 135/7, para. 23