



联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Organisation des Nations
Unies pour l'alimentation
et l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Eightieth Session

Rome, 18 - 22 May 2020

Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee

Queries on the substantive document may be addressed to:

David McSherry
Secretary
Finance Committee
Tel: +3906 5705 3719

This document may be printed on demand following an FAO initiative to minimize its environmental impact and promote greener communications. This and other documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

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 178th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 163/5	
The Committee (on the <i>Financial Position of the Organization</i>) <u>requested</u> that information on TCP approval and expenditure levels for each biennial appropriation be illustrated in a comprehensive way as part of future regular reports on the Financial Position – paragraph 8.	Information will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC with the document on the <i>Financial Position of the Organization</i> .
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Audited Accounts - FAO 2018 and Management Response to the Recommendations presented in the Report of the External Auditor</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>highlighted</u> the importance of recommendations on Human Resources matters presented in the Long Form Report <u>and requested</u> the Management to prepare a detailed action plan with concrete timelines and results to be achieved to address these recommendations; • <u>noted with concern</u> the resource constraints faced by the Office of the Inspector General to deal with its increasing workload and <u>requested</u> the Management to review potential options to address this within existing resources and report management's plans and options to address the insufficient funding to the May 2020 session of the Finance Committee. <p>- paragraph 10</p>	<p>Action Plan will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC with the document on <i>Human Resources Management</i>.</p> <p>Information will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC in the <i>Annual Report on Budgetary Performance and Programme and Budgetary Transfers in the 2018-2019 Biennium</i>.</p>
BUDGETARY MATTERS	
Report of the 175th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 161/4	
The Committee (on the <i>Mid-Term Review Synthesis Report – 2018</i>) requested that the PIR include a review and analysis of TCP expenditures at the country level – paragraph 17.	Information will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the Joint Meeting of the Programme and Finance Committee in the <i>Programme Implementation Report (PIR) 2018-19</i> .

Recommendation	Status
Report of the 178th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 163/5	
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Adjustments to the Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>requested</u> that a new stronger Key Performance Indicator (KPI) under Outcome 10.3.E Direction related to sexual harassment be proposed to the May 2020 Session of the Finance Committee, based for example on the convergence of the results from the staff satisfaction survey and reported sexual harassment cases; • <u>emphasized</u> the need to ensure adequate funding of the Office of the Inspector General, within existing resources, to address its increased workload, and <u>requested</u> its prioritization for future budgetary adjustments and/or transfers to be presented to the May 2020 Session of the Finance Committee, and <u>noted expectations</u> that efforts would be made to help the office reduce urgently the backlog of cases. <p>- paragraph 13</p>	<p>Information will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC with the document on <i>Further adjustments to the PWB 2020-21</i>.</p> <p>Information will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC in the <i>Annual Report on Budgetary Performance and Programme and Budgetary Transfers in the 2018-2019 Biennium</i>.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Programme and Budgetary Transfers in the 2018-19 biennium</i>) noted the information provided on the use of the unspent balance of the 2016-17 appropriation and <u>requested</u> to be kept informed of the utilization of the Special Fund for Development Finance Activities and the Great Green Wall initiative – paragraph 15.</p>	<p>Information will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC in the <i>Annual Report on Budgetary Performance and Programme and Budgetary Transfers in the 2018-2019 Biennium</i>.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee</i>) emphasized the importance of preparing a comprehensive methodology on the lapse factor as part of the presentation of the Programme of Work and Budget 2022-23 – paragraph 30.</p>	<p>The lapse factor methodology will be reviewed when preparing the <i>Programme of Work of Budget 2022-23</i>.</p>
HUMAN RESOURCES	
Report of the 175th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 161/4	
<p>The Committee (on <i>Human Resources Management</i>) welcomed the indication that the Office of the Inspector General would, during 2019, carry out a review of the staff mobility programme and looked forward to receiving information on the recommendations arising from the review at a future session – paragraph 25.</p>	<p>Information will be presented following the completion of the OIG review of the staff mobility programme.</p>

Recommendation	Status
Report of the 178th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 163/5	
<p>The Committee (on Human Resources Management):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>requested</u> the Management to prepare a detailed action plan with specific timelines and results to be achieved to improve human resources management; • <u>requested</u> the Management to address the issue of delegation of authority as a matter of priority taking into account General Rule XXXVIII (5), lessons learned, past experiences, recent observations and recommendations of oversight bodies as well as best practices in the United Nations System, and report thereon to the Finance Committee at its May 2020 Session. • <u>looked forward</u> to receiving an update on the outcome and recommendations arising from the review by the Office of the Inspector General of the staff mobility programme and <u>requested</u> the Management to suspend the staff mobility programme for 2020 pending that review. <p>- paragraph 17</p>	<p>Information on these issues will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC with the document on <i>Human Resources Management</i>.</p>
OVERSIGHT	
Report of the 178th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 163/5	
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Progress Report on Implementation of the Audit Committee Recommendations</i>) looked forward to a further update on the occasion of the presentation of the Audit Committee's 2019 annual report to be presented at the Finance Committee's 180th Session in May 2020 – paragraph 21.</p>	<p>An update will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC as part of the <i>Annual Report of the Audit Committee</i>.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Progress Report on Implementation of the External Auditor's Recommendations</i>) requested the Management to present at the November 2020 session of the Committee an update on the impact of the change in the business class threshold for travel on costs and programme delivery – paragraph 23.</p>	<p>An update progress report will be presented to the November 2020 Session of the FC.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Review of whistle-blower policies and practices in United Nations System Organizations</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>requested</u> the Management to submit to the Committee at its Session in May 2020 an update on the status of implementation of the recommendations presented in the JIU Report; 	

Recommendation	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>requested</u> Management to consider establishing a service agreement with another United Nations Organization’s Ethics Office to enable further strengthening of the mechanism for reviewing preliminary assessments of complaints of retaliation. - paragraph 24 	<p>A document on the status of implementation of recommendations of the JIU Report will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Office of the Inspector General</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>requested</u> preparation of a revised Charter of the Office of the Inspector General to reflect latest best practices in the United Nations system, as well as FAO’s strengthened oversight activities, to be submitted for approval to the May 2020 session of the Finance Committee following its review by the Audit Committee; • as a one time interim procedure, given the urgency of the issues, <u>recommended</u> Management adopt the revised charter of the OIG after Audit Committee review and informal Finance Committee consultation, until the Finance Committee could formally approve the policy in May 2020; • <u>emphasized</u> the need to ensure adequate funding, within existing resources, of the Office of the Inspector General to address its increased workload, and <u>requested</u> its prioritization for future budgetary adjustments and/or transfers to be presented to the May 2020 Session of the Finance Committee. <p>paragraph 28.</p>	<p>A document on the <i>Revised Charter of the Office of the Inspector General</i> will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC.</p> <p>Information on the funding of OIG will be presented to the May 2020 Session of the FC in the <i>Annual Report on Budgetary Performance and Programme and Budgetary Transfers in the 2018-2019 Biennium</i>.</p>
OTHER MATTERS	
Report of the 178th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 163/5	
<p>The Committee (on <i>Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee</i>) recalled the Committee’s previous requests for the Ethics Officer to present reports to the Finance Committee and <u>looked forward</u> to resumption of this practice following appointment of the new Ethics Officer - paragraph 30.</p>	<p>Reports of the Ethics Officer to the FC will be resumed following appointment of the new Ethics Officer.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Working Methods of the Finance Committee</i>) <u>requested</u> the Management to present the progress reports on implementation of recommendations of the External Auditor and of the Audit Committee under one agenda item at future sessions to facilitate the Committee’s consideration of these matters – paragraph 32</p>	<p>Will be addressed in the preparation of the agenda for the November 2020 Session of the FC when the next progress reports are presented.</p>

