



C 93/LIM/43
November 1993

conference

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS - ROME

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Twenty-seventh Session
Rome, 6-25 November 1993

EIGHTH REPORT OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

Request to Convene a Council Session by July 1994 to Review Budgetary Appropriations in PWB 1994-95

1. The General Committee recommends that the Conference adopt the following Resolution:

Resolution .../93

PROGRAMME OF WORK AND BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS 1994-95

THE CONFERENCE,

Having adopted the Director-General's Programme of Work and Budget for 1994-95,

Convinced of the propriety of giving the in-coming Director-General the opportunity and flexibility to review the Programme of Work and related sectorial budgetary appropriations and, in consultation with Member Nations, to work out his own proposals, within the proposed overall level of US\$673 114 000, on the structures and policies of the Organization, taking into account the views of Conference on various aspects of the mission of FAO,

Authorizes:

1. The Director-General to undertake with all necessary speed a review of the programmes, structures and policies of the Organization, in the light of the Conference deliberations;
2. The Director-General, in accordance with Rule XXV-1 GRO and in consultation with the Independent Chairman and the Members of the Council, to convene an additional Session of the Council, to be held at a suitable date by May 1994;
3. The Council to decide, at that Session, on all necessary changes which require Council approval, on the basis of the proposals which may be formulated by the Director-General and within the limits of the above-mentioned ceiling of US\$ 673 114 000.

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Methodology for the Calculation of the Pensionable Remuneration of the Director-General

2. In conformity with Rule XXXVI (c) of the General Rules of the Organization, the Committee reviewed the recent Resolutions of the UN General Assembly (Resolution 45/242 Section II, Resolution 46/192 Section III and Resolution 47/203 Section IV) that dealt with the pensionable remuneration and pension of the Executive Heads of the Specialized Agencies, including the Director-General of FAO. The Committee recommends that the Conference endorse the methodology for determining and adjusting the pensionable remuneration of officials appointed or elected to ungraded posts, including the Director-General, as recommended by the International Civil Service Commission and endorsed by the General Assembly, and inform the General Assembly, the International Civil Service Commission and the UN Joint Staff Pension Board of the action taken in this regard.

3. The Committee, recalling that the General Assembly's preference was that ungraded officials should become participants in the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund, also recommends that future Directors-General can EITHER (i) become participants in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, OR (ii) have arrangements made outside the Fund in accordance with the scheme set out in UN General Assembly Resolution 47/203 Section IV, sub-para.1., whereby an annual pensionable remuneration is established and the equivalent of the Organization's contribution to the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund is paid to the Director-General in monthly instalments as a supplement to his remuneration; the choice between options (i) and (ii) would be made at the time of adopting the resolution on the appointment of the Director-General, after consultation with the Director-General Elect.

4. The Committee noted that Article 28(d) of the Regulations of the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund had been amended to extend the ceiling on pensions to the UN Joint Staff Director-General.

Guidance to the Council and Finance Committee on Action needed to alleviate the Problems associated with the Right to Vote

5. The Conference, mindful of concerns regarding the procedures and practices presently followed by the Organization for restoring the voting rights of Member Nations in arrears of assessed contributions, requested the Finance Committee and the Council to address the issue and report its findings to the Twenty-eighth Session of the Conference. Particular concern was expressed over the unsatisfactory results of the practice of allowing Member Nations, who have lost their voting rights as a consequence of their arrears position, to have them restored by paying their contributions under special instalment plans. However, the application of the provisions of Article III.4 should also be reviewed, in general and with a view to defining the criteria to be applied in assessing and determining the conditions deemed "beyond the control of a Member Nation". To facilitate the work of the Finance Committee and the Council, the Conference requested the Director-General to review the procedures and practices of the UN and the other Specialized Agencies in the search for alternative procedures and practices, and to provide the Finance Committee with an assessment of the alternatives relative to those presently followed by the Organization.