

**Report of the Joint Meeting of the 106th Session of the Programme Committee
and the 138th Session of the Finance Committee - 23 March 2011 (CL 141/10)**

Vision for the structure and functioning of Decentralized Offices

9. The Joint Meeting reviewed the document on the “Vision for the structure and functioning of Decentralized Offices”. The Joint Meeting:

- a) re-affirmed the importance of decentralization for the work of the Organization and the critical need for headquarters and decentralized offices to function as one in the most effective and efficient manner;
- b) underlined the need for rationalization of all layers of operations, including staffing, when necessary, according to the IPA;
- c) underlined the ongoing need for actions to enhance expertise and performance in decentralized offices in line with their priorities and needs;
- d) stressed the need for appropriate and adequate resources which will enable decentralized offices to exercise the delegation of authority given to them through the IPA and encouraged careful and continued monitoring of the decentralized network;
- e) noted the progress made on benchmarking and welcomed the consultations with other UN organizations;
- f) welcomed the steps that were being taken for greater professionalism in the recruitment of heads of decentralized offices; stressed the urgent need to adopt and implement the rotation and mobility policy, competency profiles, and recruitment procedures, as foreseen in the IPA; and
- g) emphasised the importance of the revised Circular on Responsibilities and Relationships between headquarters and decentralized offices, which was under preparation.