

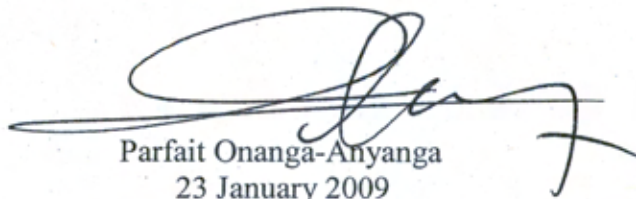
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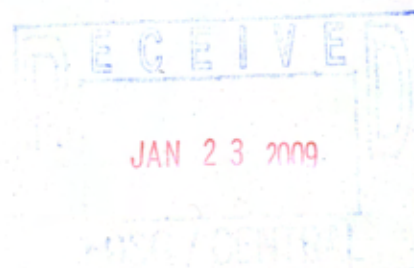
Leventhal
John

Note to Mr. Nambiar

Re: Follow up to the resolutions adopted by the
GA Second and Third Committees

1. Following up on your questions regarding the issues raised in my note to you dated 19 January 2009, I would like to bring to your attention the following additional information.
2. Regarding the appointment of a focal point for inter-agency coordination on the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017), this will be the first time to establish such an arrangement. This request by the General Assembly was prompted by the Member States' notion that not much progress had been achieved in the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, and that the implementation of the Second Decade would need to be pursued more efficiently. As DESA has served as a substantive office on this issue, I believe it would be suitable to advise the Secretary-General to consider appointing Under-Secretary-General Sha as the focal point for inter-agency coordination.
3. Regarding the funding situation of the UN operational activities, in response to General Assembly resolution 62/277 on System-wide Coherence, DESA, in cooperation with the UN system organizations, is preparing a substantive paper on the issue. It analyzes the funding obstacles and weaknesses and outlines various approaches currently being pursued on a system-wide basis. The paper will be ready by early February, at which time we will be submitting to the Deputy Secretary-General for final review, together with the paper on Governance, also requested by the General Assembly in the context of its discussions on System-wide Coherence.


Parfait Onanga-Anyanga
23 January 2009



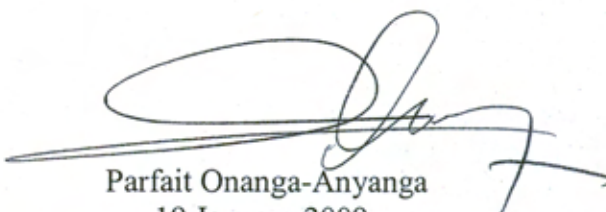
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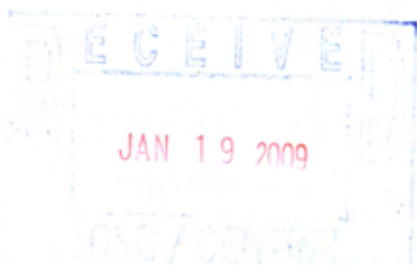
*John
Bentley*

Note to Mr. Nambiar

Follow up to the resolutions adopted by the
General Assembly Second and Third Committees

1. Reference is made to the note from Mr. Sha dated 15 December 2008 on the status of work of the Second and Third Committees. Both Committees have concluded their work, and I wish to bring to your attention two provisions requiring specific action by the Secretary-General.
2. On poverty eradication, the draft resolution entitled "Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)" calls upon the agencies of the United Nations system to mainstream poverty eradication into their activities and to report annually on the actions taken in support of the overall theme of the Second Decade, and requests the Secretary-General to appoint a focal point for inter-agency coordination in this regard.
3. In this regard, you may wish to advise the Secretary-General to request Under-Secretary-General Sha to serve as the focal point for inter-agency coordination.
4. Regarding operational activities, the General Assembly reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to take, in full consultation with Member States and observer States, measures, to improve the quantity and quality of funding for operational activities for development. The General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to report within the context of his annual report on the implementation of resolution 62/208 on triennial comprehensive policy reviews, on measures taken in response to the request, including feedback from Member States on ways to achieve the aims contained therein.
4. From the intergovernmental negotiations on this resolution, it was clear that the Member States felt that more could be done to improve the funding situation of UN system organizations. In this regard, they are looking to the Secretary-General to provide leadership in this regard, in full consultation with Member States.
5. The funding issue is also being addressed in the context of the discussions on Systems-wide Coherence. In response to General Assembly resolution 62/277, a paper is being prepared by DESA in consultation with UNDOCO and the UN System organizations. We will keep you informed of any developments as we proceed.


Parfait Onanga-Anyanga
19 January 2009

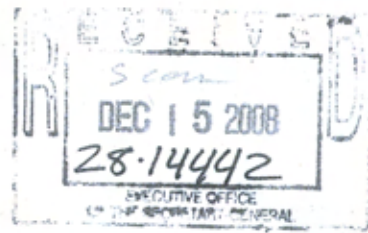


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Note to the Secretary-General



Status of the work of the Second and Third Committees

The Second Committee concluded its work on Friday, 12 December, with the adoption of forty resolutions. Concerns on the impact of financial crisis, the economic downturn and challenges posed by the volatility of food and energy prices dominated the proceedings of the Committee. To address these challenges, there were repeated calls for a greater role of the UN. The overall work of the Committee was also impacted by the Doha Review Conference which effectively interrupted, from end November to the first week of December, the negotiations and also made redundant separate resolutions on macro-economic issues.

Some major new resolutions reflect the political mood in the Committee. Firstly, a resolution entitled "Towards a New International Economic Order", which outlines the role of the UN in promoting equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development was voted upon. It has shades of the strong North-South differences which go back three decades. Secondly, a consensus resolution was adopted, on reliable and stable transit of energy which recognizes the need for extensive international cooperation in ensuring reliable transportation of energy. A third resolution was focused on the concerns of middle-income developing countries, as these countries believe that they are facing the brunt of the financial crisis and feel increasingly marginalized in the development work of the UN.

The resolution on climate change was adopted on 30 November in order to send a clear message for urgent action by the 14th Conference of Parties of UNFCCC held in Poznan, Poland from 1-12 December. The Committee also decided on a two-day review of the Mauritius Strategy for SIDs to be held in September 2010 and a review of the Brussels Programme of Action for LDCs to be held in 2011. A resolution has called for further consultations by the President of the General Assembly on the convening of the High-Level UN Conference on South-South Cooperation, as the delegations could not agree on the venue and timing.

Two resolutions on poverty eradication highlight the adverse impact of current global financial crisis and volatile food and energy prices on efforts to eradicate poverty. The resolution on "the implementation of the Second UN Decade for the Eradication of Poverty" requests the appointment of a focal point in the UN system to coordinate the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) in consultation with Member States. It also identifies full employment and decent work for all as a theme for the Decade and decided to convene a meeting of the GA at the highest appropriate political level devoted to the issue of poverty eradication during its 68th session.

The resolution on operational activities for development makes a range of recommendations for increasing funding of operational activities for development. It is particularly notable for changing the periodicity of the comprehensive policy review of UN system's operational activities from a triennial to a quadrennial cycle. This should result in improving the coherence of operational activities. It was also agreed to hold the next comprehensive policy review in 2012 instead of 2010 as planned.

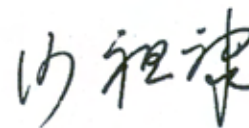
The atmosphere in the Committee was positive, with delegations energized by the successful outcome of the Doha meeting and they managed to hammer out a consensus on most of the resolutions. The Permanent Representative of Nigeria who chaired the Committee needs to be congratulated on her efficient handling of her responsibilities.

The Third Committee concluded its work on 26 November 2008. It adopted by consensus three resolutions on gender equality: (1) intensification of efforts to eliminate violence against women; (2) trafficking in women and girls; and (3) follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The resolution on violence against women represents a significant step forward in the work of the General Assembly. It focuses on the theme of ending impunity and a culture of tolerance, and highlights a series of best practices that Member States should use towards preventing and eliminating violence against women. It also welcomes the Secretary-General's campaign "UNiTE to End Violence Against Women", while stressing the need for concrete follow-up activities by the UN system.

In the resolutions on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Member States were encouraged to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacities to implement the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. The resolution also requested translation of the Guide to the National Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, prepared by DESA, into all official languages of the UN so that it can be used more effectively by Member States.

The resolution on persons with disabilities requested the Inter-Agency Support Group for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to integrate the rights of persons with disabilities into UN development activities and to provide guidelines for UN country teams. It further requested the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in the UN system in accordance with the Convention, including the retention and recruitment of persons with disabilities.

On Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur on the situation on human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples was requested to report annually on the implementation of his mandate to the GA. The resolution also called for a mid-term assessment report to the GA at its sixty-fifth session that evaluates progress made in the achievement of the goal and objectives of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples.



Sha Zukang
15 December 2008

cc: Deputy Secretary-General
Chef de Cabinet



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
21 November 2008

Original: English

Sixty-third session

Second Committee

Agenda item 54

Operational activities for development

**Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee,
Troy Torrington (Guyana), on the basis of informal consultations on draft
resolution A/C.2/63/L.4**

Operational activities for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General¹ and of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;²

2. *Also takes note of* Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/2 of 18 July 2008 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

¹ Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006 (A/63/71-E/2008/46); report of the Secretary-General on trends in contribution to operational activities for development of the United Nations system and measures to promote an adequate, predictable and expanding base of United Nations development assistance (A/63/201); report of the Secretary-General on the implications of aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development (A/63/207).

² A/63/205.



Funding of operational activities of the United Nations development system

3. *Reiterates* paragraphs 18 to 20 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/2 on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;³

4. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, making use of existing capacities within the Secretariat and, if necessary, voluntary contributions, to take the necessary steps to integrate by 2010 information from the report on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures and its statistical addendum into the report on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, to provide appropriate online access to this information and report to the Economic and Social Council in 2009 on progress in this regard, and encourages the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme to take the necessary decision to make this possible;

5. *Expresses concern at:*

(a) The fact that the upward trend in contributions in real terms received by the United Nations system for operational activities since 2002 came to a halt in 2006;⁴

(b) The continuing imbalance between core and non-core funding;

(c) The limited progress towards greater predictability and adequacy of funding;

6. *Emphasizes* that increasing financial contributions to the United Nations development system is key to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard recognizes the mutually reinforcing links between increased effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations development system, achieving concrete results in assisting developing countries to eradicate poverty and achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development through operational activities for development and the overall resourcing of the United Nations development system;

7. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

8. *Urges* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to substantially increase their voluntary contributions to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

9. *Invites* countries to consider increasing their contributions to the budgets of the specialized agencies in order to enable the United Nations development system to respond in a more comprehensive and effective manner to the demands of the United Nations development agenda;

³ See also A/63/71-E/2008/46.

⁴ See A/63/201.

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of taking measures to broaden the donor base and increase the number of donor countries and other partners making financial contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce reliance of the United Nations development system on a limited number of donors;

11. *Welcomes* the growth in funding to the United Nations system from non-governmental sources, such as civil society, private organizations and foundations;

12. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important supplement to the regular resource base of the United Nations development system to support operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources and that unearmarked contributions are vital for the coherence and harmonization of the operational activities for development;

13. *Underscores* the importance of mobilizing more predictable levels of voluntary contributions to the core operational programmes of the United Nations development system, recognizes the establishment of thematic trust funds, multi-donor trust funds and other voluntary non-earmarked funding mechanisms linked to organization-specific funding frameworks and strategies established by the respective governing bodies as funding modalities complementary to regular budgets, and encourages the measurement of the funding received by the United Nations development system through these modalities as part of the comprehensive statistical analysis of financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

14. *Recognizes* the increasing complexity of the international aid architecture and in this regard encourages the organizations of the United Nations development system to continue to explore ways to engage with other development partners in order to strengthen their complementarity and the implementation of their mandates, taking into account the importance of national priorities of programme countries, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations development system, to report on efforts in this regard in the context of his annual report on the implementation of resolution 62/208;

15. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations system, if they have not done so, to mobilize and allocate resources, on the basis of a strategic plan, including a multi-year resource programming framework;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take, in full consultation with Member States and observer States, measures:

(a) To promote an adequate and expanding base of development assistance from the United Nations system, taking into account, inter alia, the development priorities of programme countries;

(b) To promote an upward trend in real contributions to operational activities for development to identify obstacles to the achievement of that goal and to make appropriate recommendations in this regard;

(c) To promote the predictability and the multi-year pledging of funding for operational activities for development;

(d) To promote an appropriate balance between core and non-core contributions;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report within the context of his annual report on the implementation of resolution 62/208, on measures taken in response to paragraph 16 above, bearing in mind the provisions of the present resolution, and including feedback from Member States on ways to achieve the aims contained therein;

Aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

18. *Decides* to change the comprehensive policy review of operational activities from a triennial to a quadrennial cycle in order to better provide policy guidance to the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

19. *Decides* in this regard to hold its next comprehensive policy review in 2012 and subsequent reviews on a quadrennial basis;

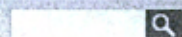
20. *Urges* the funds and programmes and encourages the specialized agencies to carry out the changes, if any, required to align their planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the implementation of midterm reviews as necessary, and to report to the Economic and Social Council on adjustments made to fit the new comprehensive review cycle at the substantive session of the Council.

2ndCommittee

Masumi Ono | Sign Out

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Consideration of the reports of the Second Committee by the General Assembly plenary is scheduled for **Friday, 19 December, morning**.

The symbols of the reports and the title are listed below;

Symbol	Document Title
A/63/410	Report of the Second Committee on the Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources
A/63/411	Report of the Second Committee on the Information and communication technologies for development
A/63/412	Report of the Second Committee on the Macroeconomic policy questions
A/63/412/Add.1	Report of the Second Committee on the Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development
A/63/412/Add.2	Report of the Second Committee on the Macroeconomic policy questions: international financial system and development
A/63/412/Add.3	Report of the Second Committee on the Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt and development: towards a durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries
A/63/412/Add.4	Report of the Second Committee on the Macroeconomic policy questions: commodities
A/63/413	Report of the Second Committee on the Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference
A/63/413 (Part II)	Report of the Second Committee on the Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the preparation of the 2008 Review Conference
A/63/414	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development
A/63/414/Add.1	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development: Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
A/63/414/Add.2	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development: Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
A/63/414/Add.3	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable

	development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
A/63/414/Add.4	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind
A/63/414/Add.5	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development: Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa
A/63/414/Add.6	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development: Convention on Biological Diversity
A/63/414/Add.7	Report of the Second Committee on the Sustainable development: Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its tenth special session
A/63/415	Report of the Second Committee on the Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
A/63/416	Report of the Second Committee on the Globalization and interdependence
A/63/416/Add.1	Report of the Second Committee on the Globalization and interdependence: Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence
A/63/416/Add.2	Report of the Second Committee on the Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development
A/63/416/Add.3	Report of the Second Committee on the Globalization and interdependence: culture and development
A/63/416/Add.4	Report of the Second Committee on the Globalization and interdependence: preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption
A/63/416/Add.5	Report of the Second Committee on the Globalization and interdependence: integration of the economies in transition into the world economy
A/63/417	Report of the Second Committee on the Groups of countries in special situations
A/63/417/Add.1	Report of the Second Committee on the Groups of countries in special situations: third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries
A/63/417/Add.2	Report of the Second Committee on the Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation
A/63/418	Report of the Second Committee on the Eradication

	of poverty and other development issues
A/63/418/Add.1	Report of the Second Committee on the Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)
A/63/418/Add.2	Report of the Second Committee on the Eradication of poverty and other development issues: Industrial development cooperation
A/63/419	Report of the Second Committee on the Operational activities for development
A/63/420	Report of the Second Committee on the Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly
A/63/447	Report of the Second Committee on the Programme planning

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