

Note to Chef de Cabinet  
Text for inclusion in ICSC report

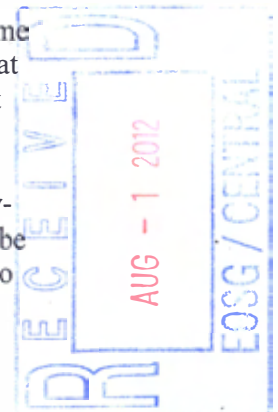
1. Per attached email, ICSC Secretariat submitted draft language for inclusion in respect of your attendance at the Commission for inclusion in their report.
2. Proposed amended text is provided below for your consideration. This has been consulted with Ms. Pollard and Ms. De Miranda.
3. For your review and approval to submit to ICSC

  
Patrick Carey  
01 August 2012

**Proposed text to be provided to ICSC Secretariat.**

At the outset of the discussions on the matter at its seventy-fifth session, and at the request of the Commission, the United Nations Secretary-General's Chef de Cabinet, Ms. Susana Malcorra, briefed the Commission on the current financial situation faced by the Organization. Ms. Malcorra indicated that the programme budget for the biennium 2012-2013 had been approved by the General Assembly after lengthy deliberations. Member States had, however, deferred the re-costing of the budget in the amount of USD 220 million while the vacancy rate applied could equate, based on current staffing, to another USD 85 million in resource requirements. While the Organization was trying to absorb the associated impact of those measures within existing resources, it might be necessary to seek additional funding from Members States later in the biennium. There was, however, a recognition that while Member States had been generous in their support for the expanding mandates of the Organization, the majority of Member States were now facing significant, financial constraints.

Faced with this reality, the Organization is seeking to identify efficiencies and innovative practices to enable mandates to be fully delivered more effectively and efficiently. The Chef de Cabinet stated that the Secretary-General's main priority was to ensure the retention of as many staff as possible in order to maintain the required expertise in the Organization. She further stated that while she could not speak for the broader United Nations system, it was known that some voluntarily funded Organizations as well as some specialized agencies confronted similar financial resources. She noted that the Secretariat recognized and remained respectful of the independent nature of Commission but that it was hoped that the current budgetary situation would be contextualized in the Commission's deliberations and that issues would be looked at in a holistic manner. In response to a question asked, the Chef de Cabinet stated that it was not for the Secretary-General to make specific proposals. However, given the current realities, options could be looked at the Commission, one being a delay on the review of the matter under review to give time to adjust budgetary considerations. In this context, it was suggested that some flexibility within the Commission's procedures could be worth considering.



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