

INTRODUCTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION ON ITS FIFTY-SECOND SESSION

**Statement by Mr. Eric Franck Saizonou (Republic of Benin)
Chair of the Fifty-Second Session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination
8 October 2012**

Mr. Chairman distinguished delegates,

I am grateful for this opportunity to present to you the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its fifty-second session (A/67/16), held from 4 to 29 June 2012.

The report contains important conclusions and recommendations reflecting the Committee's responsibility to review the Secretary-General's work programme with particular attention to programme changes arising out of decisions adopted by intergovernmental organs and conferences or proposed by the Secretary-General. In this respect, the Committee examined the programme performance of the biennium 2010-2011, the Proposed Strategic Framework for the biennium 2014-2015, and reports on evaluations issued by the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

In discharging its function to assist the Economic and Social Council in the performance of its coordination functions within the United Nations system, the Committee reviewed the annual reports of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the New Partnership for Africa's Development and made recommendations in this respect.

With regard to the programme performance for 2010-2011, the Committee's recommendations included, inter alia, that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to: ensure that **more in-depth enterprise risk management** be undertaken prior to the introduction of new management tools; include in future programme performance reports **comprehensive information on the impact of the reduction of printed**

documents on the intergovernmental decision-making process in United Nations conferences and meetings; and to fully explain in future programme performance reports the **termination or postponement of outputs and activities owing to vacancies of posts** funded under the regular budget.

Mr. Chairman,

The Committee examined the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015, comprising of Part One: plan outline, and Part Two: the biennial programme plan.

With regard to the **Plan outline**, the Committee recommended the approval of the eight priorities for the period 2014-2015, contained in paragraph 41 of the plan outline, however, owing to **differences between Member States on some aspects of the plan outline**, the Committee **recommended that the General Assembly review the plan outline at its sixty-seventh session**, under the agenda item entitled “Programme planning”. The Committee expressed concern over the inclusion of concepts and terms that had not been approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies and reiterated its recommendation that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to ensure that proposed strategic frameworks fully take into account the relevant guidelines by the Assembly, so that **future outlines more accurately reflect the longer-term objectives of the Organization**, based on all mandates approved by Member States. The Committee also stressed the need for coordinated efforts by the Secretariat to **improve the formulation of suitable expected accomplishments and to further improve the qualitative aspects of indicators of achievements**.

The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to present at its sixty-eighth session, through the Committee on Programme and Coordination, a report proposing revisions, based on changes approved by the Assembly in its various resolutions on programme planning, to the Regulations

and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

With regard to the **individual programme plans** of the proposed strategic framework 2014-2015, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly **approve 26 out of the 28 programme plans**, subject, in some cases, to specific modifications. The Committee **took note of Programme 11, Environment** and, in the light of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro from 20 to 22 June 2012, recommended that the General Assembly ensure that the programme narrative of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 under the Environment section fully reflect the outcome of the Conference. As regard **Programme 20, Human rights**, the Committee recommended that, owing to a shortage of time, to transmit the conclusions on and proposed amendments to the Chair of the Third Committee and also **recommended that the General Assembly allocate the programme to the Third Committee for its review and action**, at the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under the agenda item entitled “Programme planning”.

Mr. Chairman,

The Committee reviewed three reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its forty-ninth session on the thematic evaluation of: 1) United Nations coordinating bodies, 2) lessons learned: protocols and practices, and 3) the United Nations support for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and Africa. With regard to **lessons learned: protocols and practices**, the Committee recommended to the General Assembly that it request the Secretary-General **to take further steps to develop a single, common definition of lessons learned, and to explore means to capture, analyze and share the benefits of lessons learned.**

Mr. Chairman,

Let me now turn to **coordination questions**. With regard to the **overview report of the Chief Executives Board** for Coordination for 2011/12, the Committee, inter alia, recommended that the General Assembly bring to the attention of the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), the need for the Board to act in **accordance with its mandate** of enhancing system-wide coordination and in **conformity with the intergovernmental mandates** of its member organizations as well as the **need to take actions aimed at fostering dialogue between CEB and Member States** and in that regard recommended the need to **improve the transparency of the report of CEB** by including a summary of the status of implementation of the recommendations approved by the Assembly.

On the matter of the **United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development**, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 101 to 109 of the report and welcomed the appointment of the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa.

Among other things, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to **promote greater coherence** in its work in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and called upon the United Nations system to **continue to mainstream the special needs of Africa** into all of its normative and operational activities. The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly request the organizations of the United Nations system to **continue to coordinate closely with the New Partnership for Africa's Development Planning and Coordinating Agency**, as the technical body of the African

Union, and other structures of the African Union Commission and that the Assembly emphasize the need for the organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies to fully take into account the views, comments and/or inputs of the African Union and other regional mechanisms in its policy formulation and decision-making.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
