

Statement of the Chairman
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
9 March 2017

Managing after-service health insurance

(ACABQ report A/71/815, related report A/71/698)

Madam Chairperson,

I am pleased to introduce the Advisory Committee's report on managing after-service health insurance (ASHI) (A/71/815).

The Advisory Committee has considered the seven recommendations (recommendations A to G) of the Secretary-General. The Committee recommends endorsement of recommendations A, B, C, E and G, but recommends against endorsement of recommendations D and F.

Overall, the Advisory Committee welcomes the efforts made by the Working Group to pursue opportunities for cooperation among the United Nations system organizations, such as managing health insurance plans, negotiating with service providers and harmonizing valuation methodologies of ASHI liability.

Recommendation F is about the proposed partial funding of ASHI liability, namely, to fully fund newly constituted liability in relation to staff recruited from 1 January 2020, while maintaining the pay-as-you-go approach for the existing liability. The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly has considered that the existing pay-as-you-go approach remains a viable approach. The Assembly has also endorsed the Committee's recommendation that the Organization continue with the pay-as-you-go approach at the present time. Furthermore, the Committee is of the view that the funding proposal is not presented in a comprehensive manner and lacks considerations of different scenarios and variables, which is explained in paragraph 37 of the report of the Committee.

Regarding access to national health insurance schemes of Member States and its potential impact on the health insurance plans, the Advisory Committee notes that the information-gathering in this respect is ongoing and that no recommendation is proposed by the Working Group at this stage. The Committee looks forward to receiving more information in this area in the next report of the Secretary-General.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.