

UNITED NATIONS



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Agenda item 135: Programme planning

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Strategic framework for the period 2018-2019

Consolidated changes for the biennium 2016-2017

FIFTH COMMITTEE

Statement by

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30 September 2016

Madame Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates

I have the honour to present the Proposed Strategic Framework for the period 2018-2019, and the consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan as reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

Let me begin with the report on the consolidated changes to the biennial programme plan for 2016-2017 contained in A/71/85. The proposed changes result from new and expanded mandates, in particular, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, contained in resolutions 69/313 and 70/1 respectively. As the new Agendas are comprehensive, these changes apply to many Departments and Offices, 17 programmes in total, which are listed in paragraph 2 of the report, and also included in the Proposed Strategic Framework for the biennium 2018-2019.

The Proposed Strategic Framework for the biennium 2018-2019 comprises Part One: Plan Outline, and Part Two: Biennial Programme Plan which covers 28 programmes. The Proposed Strategic Framework is a translation of legislative mandates and will serve as the framework for the biennial programme budget proposals for 2018-2019. A summary listing of key legislative mandates is included at the end of each programme in Part Two.

Part One, the Plan Outline was prepared under the leadership of the Secretary-General with the full involvement of his senior management. It concentrates on the eight priority areas for the work of the Organization identified previously by the General Assembly in resolution 69/17, the longer-term objectives and strategy and the trends deduced from mandates that reflect priorities set by intergovernmental organs as well as future challenges.

The document before you has been subject to intergovernmental review by relevant sectoral, functional and regional bodies. In a number of cases, these reviews took place prior to finalization of the strategic framework and the outcomes have been incorporated in proposals before you. In other instances, the intergovernmental review occurred after the finalization of initial proposals and modifications were provided to CPC when it reviewed the Proposed Strategic Framework in June this year.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 58/269, the programmes will be updated as appropriate to reflect the impact of intergovernmental decisions taken subsequent to the preparation of the Proposed Strategic Framework. Such changes will be included in the 2018-2019 proposed programme budget fascicles, if applicable, and submitted to CPC at its 57th session.

The Proposed Strategic Framework reflects the guidance of the General Assembly set in its various resolutions on Programme planning, including its latest resolution 70/8, wherein the Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Committee for Programme

and Coordination in its report A/70/16 (para. 85), which requested the Secretary-General to take forward specific and concrete actions to revise the logical frameworks and improve them, to the extent possible, so as to more clearly indicate the impact of the activities implemented.

In line with the request, the Secretariat worked in a coordinated manner to improve, to the extent possible, the formulation of the frameworks to more clearly indicate the impact of the activities implemented. This effort involved some 50 working sessions with over 200 programme managers in total. As a result approximately 97% of the objectives, 92% of the expected accomplishments, and 83% of the indicators of achievement, proposed are impacted oriented.

In closing, the Secretariat stands ready to support the Committee as it carries out its programme of work in order to reach a positive conclusion.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman