

THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

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STATEMENT BY THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Giovanni Buttigieg

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY (FIFTH) COMMITTEE

Mr. Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

I am pleased to introduce to you the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its 61st session, as contained in document A/76/16.

The report contains important conclusions and recommendations reflecting the Committee's responsibility to review the Secretary-General's work programme and to assist the Economic and Social Council in the performance of its co-ordination functions within the United Nations system.

Under the agenda item entitled "Programme questions", the Committee examined 28 programmes of the proposed programme budget for the year 2022 and made specific recommendations on 18 of them. As regards the remaining 10 programmes, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly, at its seventy-sixth session, review the programme plans of:

- i. Programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;
- ii. Programme 3, Disarmament;
- iii. Programme 4, Peacekeeping operations;
- iv. Programme 6, Legal affairs;
- v. Programme 7, Economic and social affairs;
- vi. Programme 14, Gender equality and the empowerment of women;
- vii. Programme 20, Human rights;
- viii. Programme 23, Humanitarian assistance;
- ix. Programme 24, Global communications; and
- x. Programme 28, Safety and security.

of the proposed programme budget for 2022, under the agenda item entitled “Programme planning”.

Under the same agenda item, the Committee considered reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, including the biennial report of the Office on Strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings on programme design, delivery and policy directives. With regard to that report, the Committee expressed concern regarding the findings in the report on shortfalls such as highly uneven evaluation practice, weak evaluation use and tracking systems and the long-standing lack of evaluation capacity in the UN Secretariat and recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to take further action to strengthen the role of evaluation in order to improve programmes, enhance performance and strengthen accountability, transparency and internal control. The Committee also recommended that the General Assembly endorse the results, conclusions and recommendations of the Office, including those contained in paragraphs 85 to 88 of the report.

The Committee also considered six entity-specific evaluation reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and made recommendations on three of the six reports, namely:

- i. the evaluation of United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development;
- ii. the evaluation of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs; and
- iii. the inspection of the evaluation function of UN-Women,

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, under the agenda item entitled "Coordination question", reviewed the annual overview report of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and recommended that the General Assembly take note of the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2020 and made additional specific recommendations.

Under the same agenda item, the Committee also considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations system support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 68 to 72 of the report.

Under agenda item entitled "Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit", the Committee had before it a report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the review of management and administration in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the four recommendations contained therein and request the Secretary-General to ensure their timely and full implementation.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the other members of the Bureau, to all members of the Committee, and to the Secretariat of the Committee for Programme and Coordination for its support to the work of the Committee at its 61st session.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.
