Seventy-sixth session
Agenda item 122

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Prathma Uprety (Nepal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2021, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-sixth session the item entitled “Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly” and to allocate it to all the Main Committees for the purpose of discussing their working methods, as well as considering and taking action on their respective tentative programmes of work.

2. At its 1st meeting, on 1 October 2021, the Second Committee, taking into account the situation regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, limitations on meetings held on United Nations premises as precautionary measures aimed at containing the spread of COVID-19, as well as available technological and procedural solutions, and bearing in mind the conference room paper of the Bureau of the Second Committee on the work of the Committee during the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, 1 approved the working arrangements of the Committee for the seventy-sixth session as set out in the organization of work of the Committee.2

3. The Second Committee considered the item at its 10th meeting, on 23 November 2021. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary record.3

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2 See A/C.2/76/L.1.
3 See A/C.2/76/SR.10.
II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft decision contained in document A/C.2/76/L.61

4. At its 10th meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled “Draft programme of work of the Second Committee for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly” (A/C.2/76/L.61), as submitted by the Bureau of the Committee.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

6. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision on its draft programme of work for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly, as contained in document A/C.2/76/L.61 and recommended its adoption by the Assembly (see para. 8, draft decision I).

B. Draft decision proposed by the Chair

7. At its 10th meeting, on 23 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee adopted a decision on the revitalization of its work (see para. 8, draft decision II).
III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Draft programme of work of the Second Committee for the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly:

(a) Approves the draft programme of work of the Second Committee for the seventy-seventh session of the Assembly as set out below;

(b) Invites the Bureau of the Second Committee at the seventy-seventh session, in preparing the draft programme of work and timetable of the Committee for the seventy-seventh session, to take into account the provisional programme of work and timetable of the Committee as contained in document A/C.2/76/CRP.2.

Draft programme of work¹

1. Information and communications technologies for sustainable development.

2. Macroeconomic policy questions:

   (a) International trade and development;

   (b) International financial system and development;

   (c) External debt sustainability and development;

   (d) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen good practices on assets return to foster sustainable development;

   (e) Promoting investments for sustainable development.

3. Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development.

4. Sustainable development:

   (a) Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21;

   (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

   (c) Disaster risk reduction;

   (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;

¹ The final list of items and sub-items to be considered will be based on the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly.
(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;
(h) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
(i) Combating sand and dust storms;
(j) Sustainable mountain development;
(k) Harmony with Nature.

5. Follow-up to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).

6. Globalization and interdependence:
   (a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence;
   (b) International migration and development.

7. Groups of countries in special situations:
   (a) Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;
   (b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries.

8. Eradication of poverty and other development issues:
   (a) Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027);
   (b) Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
   (c) Industrial development cooperation;
   (d) Women in development;
   (e) Human resources development.

9. Operational activities for development:
   (a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system;
   (b) South-South cooperation for development.

10. Agriculture development, food security and nutrition.

11. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources.


13. Programme planning.
Draft decision II
Revitalization of the work of the Second Committee

The General Assembly:

(a) Recalls its resolution 75/325 of 10 September 2021, in particular the provisions relating to working methods, as well as its decisions 75/548 B of 21 December 2020 and 73/537 B of 20 December 2018;

(b) Decides to convene up to two informal meetings of the Second Committee in early 2022 to discuss the working methods of the Committee;

(c) Requests the Bureau of the Second Committee to update the conference room paper on Second Committee working methods following those discussions.