Seventy-eighth session
Agenda item 120

Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ivaylo Gatev (Bulgaria)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 8 September 2023, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-eighth 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. The Second Committee considered the item at its 25th meeting, on 22 November 2023. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary record.¹

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft decision contained in document A/C.2/78/L.75

3. At its 25th meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled “Revitalization of the work of the Second Committee” (A/C.2/78/L.75), as submitted by the Bureau of the Committee.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision, as contained in document A/C.2/78/L.75 and recommended its adoption by the Assembly (see para. 7, draft decision I).

¹ A/C.2/78/SR.25.
B. Draft decision contained in document A/C.2/78/L.67

5. At its 25th meeting, on 22 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled “Draft programme of work of the Second Committee for the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly” (A/C.2/78/L.67), as submitted by the Bureau of the Committee.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision on its draft programme of work for the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly, as contained in document A/C.2/78/L.67, and recommended its adoption by the Assembly (see para. 7, draft decision II).
III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

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

**Draft decision I**  
**Revitalization of the work of the Second Committee**

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 77/335 of 1 September 2023, in particular the provisions relating to working methods, as well as its decisions 74/537 B of 11 August 2020, 75/548 B of 29 July 2021 and 77/538 B of 24 July 2023, requests the Bureau of the Second Committee to convene up to two informal dialogues of the Committee in the first months of 2024 to discuss the working methods of the Committee and to update the conference room paper on the working methods of the Second Committee following those discussions.

**Draft decision II**  
**Draft programme of work of the Second Committee for the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly**

The General Assembly:

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

(b) Invites the Bureau of the Second Committee at the seventy-ninth session, in preparing the draft programme of work and timetable of the Committee for the seventy-ninth session, to take into account the provisional programme of work and timetable of the Committee as contained in document A/C.2/78/CRP.1.

**Draft programme of work**

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;
   (f) Promotion of inclusive and effective international cooperation on tax matters at the United Nations.

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

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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.
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;
   (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) Harmony with Nature;
   (i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
   (j) Combating sand and dust storms;
   (k) Promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development.

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 third 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) Industrial development cooperation;
   (c) Women in development;
   (d) Human resources development;
   (e) Eradicating rural poverty to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable 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. Towards global partnerships.
12. 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.
14. Programme planning.