



TWENTY-SIXTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

Provisional agenda item 3.20



INDEXED

COORDINATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM:
REVIEW OF METHOD OF ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENT

1. The Twenty-fourth World Health Assembly, in resolution WHA24.12,¹ reiterated the principle, adopted by the Eighth World Health Assembly in resolution WHA8.5,² that "the latest available United Nations scale of assessment shall be used as a basis of determining the WHO scale of assessment", taking account of the difference in membership, the maximum and minima contributions, and the per capita ceiling principle. It further decided that "in principle, the maximum contribution of any one Member State in the WHO scale of assessment shall not exceed 30 per cent, of the total and that this objective shall be reached gradually, as and when the assessment of the highest contributor is reduced in the United Nations scale; in addition, as States which are not Members of the United Nations are admitted to membership of WHO, the maximum assessment percentage in the WHO scale shall be reduced by its proportionate share of such new Members' assessment percentages; the implementation of the procedure contained in this paragraph shall not in any case increase the percentage assessment of Members" and that "the maximum assessment shall be calculated as a percentage of the total assessments of the Members actively participating in the work of the Organization". By this decision, adopted on 13 May 1971, the guiding principles and methods of establishing the scale of assessment in WHO were brought fully into harmony with those adopted in the United Nations prior to that date with regard to the establishment of its scale of assessment, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution 2474(XXIII), attached as Annex 1 to this document.

2. The General Assembly of the United Nations, in paragraph B of resolution 2961(XXVII) of 22 December 1972, attached as Annex 2, decided that:

"(a) As a matter of principle, the maximum contribution of any one Member State to the ordinary expenses of the United Nations shall not exceed 25 per cent. of the total;

(b) In preparing scales of assessment for future years, the Committee on Contributions shall implement subparagraph (a) above as soon as practicable so as to reduce to 25 per cent. the percentage contribution of the Member State paying the maximum contribution, utilizing for this purpose to the extent necessary:

(i) The percentage contributions of any newly-admitted Member States immediately upon their admission;

(ii) The normal triennial increase in the percentage contributions of Member States resulting from increases in their national incomes;

(c) Notwithstanding subparagraph (b) above, the percentage contribution of Member States shall not in any case in the United Nations, the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency be increased as a consequence of the present resolution."

¹ Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 370.

² Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 369.

3. As will be seen from paragraph D of the same resolution 2961(XXVII) (Annex 2), the General Assembly inter alia also requested "the Committee on Contributions, in formulating the coming scale of assessment, to lower the floor from 0.04 per cent. to 0.02 per cent. to allow the adjustments necessary for the developing countries, in particular those with the lowest per capita income."

4. In the light of this resolution of the General Assembly, which contains new basic principles of establishing the United Nations scale of assessment, and the repeated decisions of the World Health Assembly with a view to bringing the WHO scale into harmony with that of the United Nations at the earliest possible time, the Director-General suggests that the World Health Assembly may wish to consider whether or not the same basic principles should henceforth be applied to the establishment of the WHO scale of assessment. Should the World Health Assembly be of the opinion that the same principles should be applied with respect to the WHO scale of assessment, it could adopt a new resolution to govern the establishment of the WHO scale of assessment, which would confirm the principles laid down in resolutions WHA8.5¹ and WHA24.12² and would in addition incorporate the essential wording and intent of General Assembly resolution 2961(XXVII). In the event that such action is taken by the Health Assembly, it should be borne in mind that, as the first United Nations scale of assessment which will be prepared on the basis of the new principles will become available only several months after the adoption by the World Health Assembly of the WHO scale of assessment for 1974, most of the principles laid down by General Assembly resolution 2961(XXVII) could be applied in WHO only to the establishment of its scale of assessment for 1975. However, the provision under paragraph B(b)(i) of the General Assembly resolution, to the effect that the maximum contribution be reduced by "the percentage contributions of any newly-admitted Member States immediately upon their admission", could, if any new Member State's assessment should be included in the scale of assessment to be adopted by the Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly, be applied already to the WHO scale for 1974. Such action would appear to be in line with the recommendation contained in General Assembly resolution 2474(XXIII), attached as Annex 1 to this document, that "the specialized agencies which apply methods of assessment similar to those of the United Nations and whose scales of contributions still reflect significant variations from the United Nations scale should intensify their efforts with a view to bringing their scales into harmony with the United Nations scale at the earliest possible time, taking into account differences in membership and other pertinent factors".

5. Should the World Health Assembly decide to accept the principle to reduce the floor in the scale of assessment from 0.04 per cent. to 0.02 per cent., as referred to in paragraph 3 above, the adjustment of any individual Member's assessment below 0.04 per cent. would become effective only in the 1975 WHO scale on the basis of the triennial scale 1974-1976 to be adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in the latter part of 1973 in the light of the recommendations of its Committee on Contributions. In this connexion the Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly might wish to invite the Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly, when it considers the scale of assessment for 1975, to reconsider the assessment of Associate Members, which assessment in accordance with resolution WHA13.16³ is at present established at 0.02 per cent.

6. The Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly may wish to consider the adoption of a resolution along the following lines:

The Twenty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Having considered resolution 2961(XXVII) on the scale of assessment for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh session and the report of the Director-General thereon;⁴

¹ Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 369.

² Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 370.

³ Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 382.

⁴ Document A26/28.

Recalling resolutions WHA8.5¹ and WHA24.12² adopted by the Eighth and Twenty-fourth World Health Assemblies respectively;

Recalling further resolution 2474(XXIII) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its Twenty-third session; and

Believing that the scale of assessment in WHO should follow as closely as possible that of the United Nations, due account being taken of the principles laid down in resolutions WHA8.5 and WHA24.12, as modified below,

1. CONFIRMS the principles laid down in resolutions WHA8.5 and WHA24.12 for the establishment of the scale of assessment in WHO, except as provided in paragraphs 2 and 3 below;

2. DECIDES

(1) that, as a matter of principle, the maximum contribution of any one Member State in the WHO scale of assessment shall not exceed 25 per cent. of the total;

(2) that this objective shall be reached as soon as practicable utilizing for this purpose to the extent necessary:

(i) the percentage contributions of any new Member States included in the scales of assessment adopted by the Twenty-sixth and future World Health Assemblies;

(ii) the normal triennial increase in the percentage contributions of Member States resulting from increases in their national incomes, as reflected in the future triennial scales of assessment of the United Nations;

(3) Notwithstanding subparagraph (2) above, the percentage contributions of Member States shall not in any case be increased as a consequence of the provisions of paragraph 2 of this resolution;

3. DECIDES FURTHER that the minimum assessment in the WHO scale shall conform to that established in future scales of assessment of the United Nations;

4. INVITES the Twenty-seventh World Health Assembly, when it considers the scale of assessment for 1975, to review the assessment of Associate Members which, at present, in accordance with resolution WHA13.16,³ is established at 0.02 per cent.

¹ Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 369.

² Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 370.

³ Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, Vol. I, 1948-1972, p. 382.

2474 (XXIII). ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY CO-ORDINATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
WITH THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

A

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its resolutions 311 B (IV) of 24 November 1949 and 2190 A (XXI) of 15 December 1966 on the question of the relationship between the assessments of Member States in the contributions both of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies,

Noting that, in its report on the administrative budgets for 1969 of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions states that, while further progress has been made in the direction recommended in General Assembly resolution 2190 (XXI), some agencies, in particular the International Labour Organisation, although they have taken the first steps towards implementing that resolution, still reflect variations in their scales of assessments as compared with the United Nations scale,¹⁷

1. Recommends that the specialized agencies which apply methods of assessment similar to those of the United Nations and whose scales of contributions still reflect significant variations from the United Nations scale should intensify their efforts with a view to bringing their scales into harmony with the United Nations scale at the earliest possible time, taking into account differences in membership and other pertinent factors;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the specialized agencies concerned, together with the relevant comments and observations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions set forth in its report on the administrative budgets for 1969 of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency;

3. Requests the Advisory Committee to keep this matter under review and to report to the General Assembly periodically on the implementation of the present resolution.

1752nd plenary meeting,
21 December 1968.

B

The General Assembly

1. Takes note of the reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on general co-ordination matters¹⁸ and on the administrative budgets for 1969 of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency;¹⁹

2. Requests the Secretary-General to refer the report on general co-ordination matters to the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency through the consultative machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination;

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to refer to the executive heads of the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency the observations of the Advisory Committee contained in part III of its report on their administrative budgets for 1969.

1752nd plenary meeting,
21 December 1968.

¹⁷ Ibid., Twenty-third Session, agenda item 79, document A/7379, para. 16.

¹⁸ Ibid., Twenty-third Session, Annexes, agenda item 79, document A/7380.

¹⁹ Ibid., Twenty-third Session, agenda item 79, document A/7379.



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UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Twenty-seventh session
Agenda item 77

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

/on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/8952)/

2961 (XXVII). Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

A

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

(a) The rates of assessment for the following States, which were admitted to membership in the United Nations at the twenty-sixth session of the General Assembly, shall be as follows:

<u>Member State</u>	<u>Per cent</u>
Bahrain	0.04
Oman	0.04
Qatar	0.04
United Arab Emirates . .	0.04

These rates shall be added to the scale of assessments for 1973 contained in subparagraph (a) of General Assembly resolution 2654 (XXV) of 4 December 1970 and subparagraph (a) of resolution 2762 (XXVI) of 8 November 1971;

(b) For the financial year 1972, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates shall each contribute at the rate of 0.04 per cent, these rates to be applied to the same basis of assessment for 1972 as for other Member States;

(c) For the financial year 1971, the four new Member States shall each contribute an amount equal to one ninth of 0.04 per cent applied to the same basis of assessment for 1971 as for other Member States;

(d) The contributions payable by Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates for 1971 and 1972 shall be used for the financing of the budget for 1973 under regulation 5.2 (c) of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations;

(e) The advances to the Working Capital Fund by Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates under regulation 5.8 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations shall for each of these States be 0.04 per cent of the authorized level of the Fund, and these advances shall be carried as additional to the amount of the Fund;

(f) Switzerland, which under Economic and Social Council resolution 1600 (LI) of 20 July 1971 became a member of the Economic Commission for Europe on 24 March 1972, shall be called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the Commission for the financial years 1972 and 1973 at the rate of 0.84 per cent.

2108th plenary meeting
13 December 1972

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 14 (I) of 13 February 1946, 238 (III) of 18 November 1948, 665 (VII) of 5 December 1952 and 1137 (XII) of 14 October 1957 relating to the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations among its Members and the fixing of the maximum contribution of any one Member State,

Affirming that the capacity of Member States to contribute towards the payment of the ordinary expenses of the United Nations is a fundamental criterion on which scales of assessment are based,

Noting that, when it was decided by the General Assembly in 1957 that, in principle, the maximum contribution of any one Member State to the ordinary expenses of the United Nations should not exceed 30 per cent of the total, the United Nations consisted of eighty-two Member States,

Noting further that, since the General Assembly decision of 1957, fifty States have been admitted to membership in the United Nations,

Recalling that, since the General Assembly decision of 1957, there has been a reduction in the percentage contribution of the State paying the maximum contribution from 33.33 per cent to 31.52 per cent,

Decides that:

(a) As a matter of principle, the maximum contribution of any one Member State to the ordinary expenses of the United Nations shall not exceed 25 per cent of the total;

(b) In preparing scales of assessment for future years, the Committee on Contributions shall implement subparagraph (a) above as soon as practicable so as to reduce to 25 per cent the percentage contribution of the Member State paying the maximum contribution, utilizing for this purpose to the extent necessary:

/...

(i) The percentage contributions of any newly admitted Member States immediately upon their admission;

(ii) The normal triennial increase in the percentage contributions of Member States resulting from increases in their national incomes;

(c) Notwithstanding subparagraph (b) above, the percentage contribution of Member States shall not in any case in the United Nations, the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency be increased as a consequence of the present resolution.

2108th plenary meeting

13 December 1972

C

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 582 (VI) of 21 December 1951, 665 (VII) of 5 December 1952, 876 A (IX) of 4 December 1954, 1927 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963 and 2118 (XX) of 21 December 1965 relating to the additional recognition to be given to low per capita income countries and to the attention to be given to the developing countries in the calculation of their rates of assessment,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions on its thirty-second session, 1/

Noting the views of the Committee on Contributions on the question of allowance for low per capita income, expressed in paragraph 21 of its report,

1. Reaffirms its previous directives to the Committee on Contributions regarding the additional recognition to be given to the low per capita income countries and the attention to be given to the developing countries in the calculation of their rates of assessment;

2. Requests the Committee on Contributions, at its next review of the scale of assessments, to change the elements of the low per capita income allowance formula so as to adjust it to the changing world economic conditions.

2108th plenary meeting

13 December 1972

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 11 (A/8711 and Corr.1 and Add.1).

D

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 582 (VI) of 21 December 1951, 665 (VII) of 5 December 1952, 876 A (IX) of 4 December 1954, 1927 (XVIII) of 11 December 1963 and 2118 (XX) of 21 December 1965 relating to the attention and recognition to be accorded by the Committee on Contributions to the countries with low per capita income when calculating the rates of their assessment, in view of their economic and financial problems,

Noting that the ceiling for the highest contribution has been lowered twice and that the per capita ceiling principle has been fully implemented since 1956, but that the floor for minimum contribution set at 0.04 per cent has not been lowered since 1946, in spite of the increase in the membership of the United Nations and other factors,

Taking into consideration that the allowance formula was benefiting mainly those developing countries with assessments higher than the floor and that the countries with the lowest per capita income, including the least developed among the developing countries, were not benefiting from any recommendations in favour of the developing countries in this respect, because of the rigidity of the fixed floor,

1. Reaffirms that due regard should be accorded to the developing countries, especially those with the lowest per capita income, to help them meet their priorities at home and to help them offset the inflationary trends continuously affecting their payments in dollar terms;

2. Requests the Committee on Contributions, in formulating the coming scale of assessment, to lower the floor from 0.04 per cent to 0.02 per cent to allow the adjustments necessary for the developing countries, in particular those with the lowest per capita income.

2108th plenary meeting
13 December 1972