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FINANCE COMMITTEE

Hundred and Eighty-third Session

Rome, 9 - 13 November 2020

Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee

Queries on the substantive content of this document may be addressed to:

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ND483/e

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- This document presents the updated status of outstanding recommendations made by the Committee at its previous sessions.

GUIDANCE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

- The Committee is invited to take note of the information presented in this document.

Draft Advice

- **The Committee took note of the Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee and looked forward to receiving an updated version of the document at its next regular session.**

Recommendation	Status
BUDGETARY MATTERS	
Report of the 175th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 161/4	
The Committee (on the <i>Medium Term Plan 2018-21 (Reviewed) and Programme of Work and Budget 2020-21</i>) <u>requested</u> the Secretariat to review the feasibility of updating the lapse factor methodology taking into account the latest Human Resource data – paragraph 21.	The lapse factor methodology will be reviewed when preparing the <i>Programme of Work and Budget 2022-23</i> .
HUMAN RESOURCES	
Report of the 180th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 164/7	
<p>The Committee (on <i>Human Resources Management</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>welcomed</u> the information provided on preparation of a detailed HR Strategic Action Plan with specific timelines and results to be achieved to improve human resources management and <u>looked forward</u> to reviewing the HR Strategic Action Plan at its next session in November 2020 • <u>reiterated</u> its request formulated at the 178th Session that Management addresses the issue of delegation of authority as a matter of urgency taking into account General Rule XXXVIII (5) • <u>requested</u> Management to present to its November 2020 session with the full set of results and the related analysis of the staff satisfaction survey and to report on its action plan to address the issues related to the survey, especially on harassment, sexual harassment and abuse of authority, unethical behaviour, communication, and staff development. <p>- paragraph 25</p>	Information on these issues will be presented to the 183 rd Session of the Finance Committee under: item 4, <i>Human Resources Strategic Action Plan</i> ; and item 5, <i>Update on the post-Employee Satisfaction Survey Action Planning Process</i> .
<p>The Committee (on the <i>OIG Audit of the Staff Mobility Programme</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>encouraged</u> Management to duly consider the report’s findings and conclusions in preparing a new staff mobility policy that meets the specific needs of FAO; and • requested Management to develop a methodology to track the financial implications associated with staff mobility. <p>– paragraph 27</p>	Information will be provided to the Finance Committee once the new staff mobility policy is finalized.

Recommendation	Status
OVERSIGHT	
Report of the 180th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 164/7	
<p>The Committee (on <i>Human Resources Management</i>) <u>looked forward</u> to the Audit Committee reviewing the Terms of Reference of the Ethics Officer including the term of appointment of the position and <u>requested</u> Management to also consult with the Audit Committee on the Terms of Reference for the new Ombudsman function – paragraph 25.</p>	<p>These items will be reviewed by the Oversight Advisory Committee and its observations will be communicated to the Finance Committee.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>FAO Audit Committee's Annual Report for 2019</i>) <u>looked forward</u> to a further status report from Management at the next regular session of the Finance Committee in November 2020 – paragraph 30.</p>	<p>Information to be presented to the 183rd Session of the FC under item 8, <i>Progress Reports on Implementation of recommendations of the External Auditor and the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee</i>.</p>
<p>The Committee (on <i>FAO Audit Committee Membership</i>) <u>requested</u> that the recruitment process for Audit Committee members set out in document FC 180/10 be reflected as an update to the Terms of Reference of the Audit Committee and presented for approval to the November 2020 session of the Finance Committee – paragraph 32.</p>	<p>To be presented to the 183rd Session of the Finance Committee under item 7, <i>Updated Terms of Reference of the FAO Oversight Advisory Committee</i>.</p>
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Revised Charter of the Office of the Inspector General</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted there was not a process in place to currently address allegations of misconduct against the Executive Head of the Organization and <u>requested</u> Management to report on progress on this issue at its November 2020 session; and • <u>encouraged</u> FAO's active participation in the development of a coordinated and consistent UN system-wide approach on how to address allegations of misconduct against the Executive Head of an Organization. <p>– paragraph 36</p>	<p>See item below.</p>

Recommendation	Status
The Committee (on the <i>Review of whistle-blower policies and practices in United Nations System Organizations</i>) <u>noted</u> that JIU recommendation 1 on handling allegations of misconduct against the Head of Organization was still ongoing and the updated status would be reviewed at its session in November 2020 - paragraph 40.	Update to be presented to the 183 rd Session of the Finance Committee under item 9, <i>Further update on the status of recommendations presented in the JIU Report, Review of whistle-blower policies and practices in United Nations System Organizations</i> .
OTHER MATTERS	
Report of the 178th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 163/5	
The Committee (on <i>Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee</i>) <u>recalled</u> the Committee’s previous requests for the Ethics Officer to present reports to the Finance Committee and <u>looked forward</u> to resumption of this practice following appointment of the new Ethics Officer - paragraph 30.	Annual reports of the Ethics officer will be resumed following appointment of the new Ethics Officer. The first report will be presented to the March 2021 Session of the FC.
The Committee (on the <i>Working Methods of the Committee</i>) <u>requested</u> the Management to present the progress reports on implementation of recommendations of the External Auditor and of the Audit Committee under one agenda item at future sessions to facilitate the Committee’s consideration of these matters – paragraph 32.	Both progress reports will be presented under a single agenda item (item 8) at the 183 rd Session of the Finance Committee.
Report of the 180th Session of the Finance Committee – document CL 164/7	
The Committee (on <i>Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee</i>) looked forward to considering an updated version of the document at its next regular Session – paragraph 41	Updated document will be presented to the 183 rd Session of the Finance Committee under item 11, <i>Status of Outstanding Recommendations of the Finance Committee</i> .
<p>The Committee (on the <i>Working Methods of the Committee</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>acknowledged</u> the benefits of holding informal meetings in a virtual format and recommended that this format be considered as an option when planning informal meetings in the future; • <u>welcomed</u> the procedure adopted during this session of considering selected items on the agenda by correspondence and recommended that consideration be given to continuing this practice at future <u>sessions</u>; 	These recommendations will be considered in the planning of the 183 rd Session of the Finance Committee.

Recommendation	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>recommended</u> that the approach to setting the agenda and timetable of the Joint Meeting be reviewed to ensure the efficient consideration of items on the agenda. <p>Paragraph 43</p>	