

Non-Paper on the Way Forward on Mandate Review

Building on the World Summit Outcome Document and work to date, it is proposed that the review of mandates should continue and that its scope should extend to General Assembly mandates older than five years, including those which have since been renewed. The review would be conducted according to the following guidelines:

- The objective of mandate review is to strengthen and update the UN's programme of work.
- The review would be conducted through an open, transparent and inclusive process and all decisions would be made on the basis of broadest possible agreement.
- Politically sensitive mandates would be addressed carefully and with due regard to the positions of the concerned parties.
- Mandate review is not intended as a cost-cutting exercise. Any savings which might arise from the exercise would be re-allocated within the Organisation's budget in accordance with GA procedures. In particular, any savings from development related activities would be re-invested in development activities.

The review would continue to be conducted by the Working Group of the informal GA Plenary.

The work would be organised by thematic clusters, as identified in the Secretary General's report, from within which Member States or groups could identify mandates which they would wish to see reviewed.

The Working Group would agree on its own programme of work for conducting mandate reviews. It could also, as appropriate, recommend that the main committees of the GA review particular mandates or groups of mandates falling within their area of competence.

The Secretariat will continue to facilitate the Member States in carrying out mandate review, including by furnishing the necessary information. Consideration should be given to ensuring that the Secretariat is provided with the necessary resources to meet its obligations in this regard.

The Working Group would submit a progress report to the informal Plenary in December 2006.