SEVENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Other financial questions

Financial arrangements for the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization

1. The Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization considered, during the present session of the Governing Body, a paper which proposed the creation of a World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization. The Commission would prepare a comprehensive report on the social dimension of globalization which would be submitted for review to the Working Party in March 2003.

2. The Commission would be composed of 18 members, with the Officers of the Governing Body and the Director-General as ex officio members. The work of the Commission would require two meetings of all members, to be held in Geneva, as well as regional consultations, expert consultancies and other costs. The Commission would be supported by a secretariat provided by the Office. Should the Governing Body decide to establish the Commission, financial arrangements would have to be made.

3. There is no provision in the Programme and Budget for 2002-03 for such a Commission. Based on the proposed workplan, it is estimated that the cost of this Commission would be some US$768,000. It is proposed that these costs would in the first instance be financed by savings under Part I of the budget and that, should this not prove possible, the Director-General would propose alternative methods of financing at a later stage in the biennium.

4. The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body that should it decide to establish a Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization, the cost estimated at $768,000, be financed in the first instance from savings in Part I of the Programme and Budget for 2002-03, on the understanding that, should this subsequently prove impossible, the Director-General would propose alternative methods of financing at a later stage in the biennium.


Point for decision: Paragraph 4.