32/198. First-class travel in the United Nations organizations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962, 2128 (XX) of 21 December 1965 and 2245 (XXI) of 20 December 1966 regarding the system of travel and subsistence allowances to members of organs and subsidiary organs of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 3198 (XXVIII) of 18 December 1973 on the standards of accommodation for official travel of United Nations staff,

Aware of the desirability for economy in the conduct of operations of the United Nations,

Conscious of the considerable cost differential between first-class, economy class and other air fares,

Desiring to achieve substantial savings by reducing as far as possible the amount expended on travel by the United Nations,

1. Notes the report on first-class travel in the United Nations organizations submitted by the Joint Inspection Unit 41 and the comments thereon of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination 42 as well as the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 43

2. Decides that the principle of seeking the most economical air-fare structures shall be implemented as follows:

(a) The Secretary-General and one representative of each Member State attending regular, special or emergency special sessions of the General Assembly shall be entitled to first-class travel;

(b) Other persons previously entitled to first-class travel under General Assembly resolutions 2245 (XXI) and 3198 (XXVIII) and those chairmen of intergovernmental committees at present entitled to travel paid by the United Nations shall be entitled to first-class travel only when the duration of a particular flight exceeds nine hours (by the most direct and economical route), including scheduled stops for such purposes as change of planes or refuelling, but excluding travel time to and from airports;

(c) Payment by the United Nations for travel expenses in all other cases shall be limited to the least costly air-fare structure regularly available, or its equivalent, by recognized public carrier via the shortest and most direct route;

3. Authorizes the Secretary-General to exercise his discretion in making exceptions in the most exigent circumstances to allow first-class travel on a case-by-case basis;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution, noting all exceptions made under paragraph 3 above, the reasons therefor and the savings achieved through utilization of economy and other air fares.

10th plenary meeting
21 December 1977

32/199. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 7 of its resolution 2924 B (XXVII) of 24 November 1972, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit annually to the General Assembly a succinct report on those major recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit affecting the United Nations which have not been implemented, together with the reasons therefor,

Recalling its decision of 20 November 1975, 44 in which it, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to give priority to the implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit approved by legislative bodies and to provide adequate information thereon in his annual reports,

Having considered the ninth annual report of the Joint Inspection Unit, 45 the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of major recommendations of the Unit 46 and the report thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 47

Decides that the future reports of the Secretary-General in implementation of the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit should provide concise information only with regard to those reports that have been indicated by the Unit to be of interest to the General Assembly, one of its Main Committees or other subsidiary organs.

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The General Assembly,

Having considered the third annual report of the International Civil Service Commission, 48 the notes by the Secretary-General thereon 49 and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 50

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1. Notes the assurance given by the International Civil Service Commission that, in compliance with the request made in section I, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution 31/141 B of 17 December 1976, it will continue to keep under continual review the relationship between the levels of remuneration of the comparitor national civil service and of the United Nations common system, in particular with respect to any divergences which might result from the operation of the post adjustment system;

2. Requests the Commission to inform the General Assembly at its thirty-third session of the results of the

41 See A/32/272.
43 A/32/384.
45 See A/C.5/32/6.
47 A/32/258.