



Distr.: General 3 September 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session

Items 8 and 125 of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee

Pattern of conferences

Letter dated 2 September 1999 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I am writing in connection with the provisions of section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, according to which no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly may meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly. Those subsidiary organs that wish to meet during a regular session of the Assembly submit their request through the Committee on Conferences.

I wish to inform you that the Committee on Conferences has received requests from the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to meet in New York during the main part of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

The Committee on Conferences, having carefully considered these requests and the reasons for them, does not object, on the strict understanding that such meetings would have to be accommodated within available facilities and services so that the activities of the General Assembly itself are not adversely affected.

Accordingly, I should be grateful if the General Assembly would explicitly authorize the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, the Committee on the Exercise of the

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^{*} A/54/150.

Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, the Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA and the Executive Board of UNDP and UNFPA to meet in accordance with their requests, subject to the conditions referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

(Signed) Peter Van De Velde Chairman Committee on Conferences