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Agenda items 8 and 117

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

Pattern of Conferences

Letter dated 27 October 1998 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I am again 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 the United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly. Those subsidiary organs that wish to meet during the main part of a regular session of the Assembly submit their requests through the Committee on Conferences.

I wish to inform you that the Committee on Conferences has received a request from the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories to meet in New York from 2 to 5 November 1998, during the main part of the fifty-third session of the General Assembly.

The Committee on Conferences, having carefully considered this request and the reason for it, does not object, on the strict understanding that such a meeting 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 Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories to meet in accordance with its request, subject to the conditions referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

(Signed) Koji F. X. Yamagiwa
Chairman
Committee on Conferences