



Governing Body

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Programme, Financial and Administrative Section

PFA

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Update on the headquarters building renovation project

Summary: This report provides the Governing Body with a progress update on phase 2 of the headquarters building renovation project and a status update on the building permit request for the headquarters security perimeter project.

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Related documents: GB.346/PFA/2/1; GB.344/PFA/4/1; GB.343/PFA/1; GB.341/PFA/3(Rev.1); GB.341/PFA/3(Add.1); GB.340/PV; GB.340/PFA/3; GB.337/PFA/PV; GB.337/PFA/2; GB.337/PFA/2(Add.1); GB.335/PFA/3; GB.335/PFA/3(Add.); GB.334/PV; GB.334/PFA/2; GB.332/PFA/3; GB.326/PFA/3.

▶ Introduction

1. At its 341st Session (March 2021), the Governing Body approved the final scope of phase 2 of the headquarters building renovation project.
2. At its 343rd Session (November 2021), the Governing Body:
 - (a) approved the proposed budget for phase 2 of the headquarters building renovation project set out in document GB.343/PFA/1, in line with the resources available from the sale of the land; and
 - (b) requested the Office to present the budget for the headquarters security perimeter project to the Governing Body at its 344th Session (March 2022).¹
3. At its 344th Session (March 2022), the Governing Body approved the proposed budget for the headquarters security perimeter project set out in document GB.344/PFA/4/1, in line with the resources available from the sale of the land.
4. At its 346th Session (October–November 2022), the Office informed the Governing Body that the host country had confirmed a financial contribution of CHF4 million towards the headquarters security perimeter project.
5. This document provides the Governing Body with a progress update on phase 2 of the renovation works and a status update on the building permit request for the headquarters security perimeter project.

▶ Phase 2 of the headquarters building renovation project

6. The Governing Body will recall that the current stage of the phase 2 works was set back by global supply chain issues. The completion of the works and the handover of the renovated premises are scheduled to begin in April 2023. The handover plan has been developed in coordination with the various departments involved and, in particular, with the Official Meetings, Documents and Relations Department (RELMEETINGS), which manages the conference rooms, to facilitate the introduction of the new audiovisual systems for the conference rooms.
7. The schedule for the next stage of the phase 2 works has been adapted to take into account the need for additional conference rooms for the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2023) due to the lack of available rooms at the United Nations Office in Geneva. The schedule now sets out a gradual handover process and will allow for conference rooms to remain open throughout the 111th Session of the Conference.
8. Despite the continued global supply chain issues, the Office is confident that, through consistent value engineering and the reprioritization of works, it will meet the overall completion date of late 2025 and comply with the agreed budget of CHF130.4 million, with priority being given to adhering to the budget.

¹ GB.343/PV, para. 572.

▶ Headquarters security perimeter project

9. The Office received formal authorization for the building works for its headquarters security perimeter project on 12 January 2023. It is expected that construction works will commence shortly, starting with the removal of the temporary pavilion and the relocation of vehicle access to the site to ensure both a safe worksite and safe and controlled access to the site. Pedestrian access will be redirected as and when necessary but will largely remain unchanged. Clear signage and further information will be provided in due course.
10. The project is expected to be in line with the foreseen completion date of late 2024 and the budget of CHF22.9 million, plus or minus 10 per cent, approved by the Governing Body at its 344th Session (March 2022). The project team continues to work actively on value engineering solutions with engineers and contractors.
11. In accordance with the Governing Body's guidance, the Office is working on a new proposal for the cover over the accessible pathways for mobility-impaired visitors and will work closely with the Permanent Mission of Switzerland with the aim of filing for a building permit with the local authorities later in 2023.

▶ Conclusion

12. The Office will provide the Governing Body with an updated progress report on the headquarters building renovation project and the headquarters security perimeter project at its 349th Session (October–November 2023).