

**General Assembly**

Distr.: Limited  
2 November 2004

Original: English

**Fifty-ninth session****Third Committee**

Agenda items 98 and 108

**Advancement of women****Programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005****Future operations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women****Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.26****Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly***Summary*

By draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.26, the General Assembly would decide to provide its full support to the current efforts to revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and in this regard, to ensure that the Institute will be able to continue functioning for a period of at least one year.

The period of one year, indicated in paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.26 would be from 1 January through 31 December 2005. The financial requirements of the Institute for this period are estimated at \$1,183,760. It is anticipated that the balance in the INSTRAW Trust Fund as of 31 December 2004 would amount to \$91,330, which would enable the Institute to continue its operations only through January 2005. It is not possible at this stage to determine whether the Institute would have adequate resources to operate to 31 December 2005 without complementary funds. Contingent upon the availability or otherwise of additional voluntary contributions an additional amount of \$1,092,430 may be required from the regular budget of the United Nations to maintain the Institute in 2005.

## **I. Requests contained in the draft resolution**

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.26, the General Assembly would decide to provide its full support to the current efforts to revitalize the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), and in this regard, to ensure that the Institute will be able to continue functioning for a period of at least one year.

## **II. Background**

2. In paragraph 5 of its resolution 58/244 of 23 December 2003 on the future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the General Assembly decided, inter alia, to continue to provide its full support to the current efforts to revitalize the Institute and, in this regard, to provide funds complementary to the existing ones, if needed, to ensure that the Institute would have adequate resources to function for a period of one year.

3. Before adoption of this resolution, the Fifth Committee, by its decision contained in document A/58/649, decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the resolution, an amount of \$234,700 would be set aside in the contingency fund for the biennium 2004-2005 to provide INSTRAW with complementary funds, if needed. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to indicate to the General Assembly at its second resumed fifty-eighth session on whether these resources would be required.

4. As it was determined, in consultation with the Director of the Institute at the time of the second resumed fifty-eighth session, that there was no immediate need for additional resources to be provided by the General Assembly to INSTRAW, the report on the financial situation of the Institute was submitted to the current session of the General Assembly (see A/59/433).

## **III. Current financial situation**

5. In 2004, the financial situation of the Institute remained precarious. As indicated in the report of the Secretary-General (A/59/433), only \$109,100, including \$101,706 in voluntary contributions and \$7,394 in miscellaneous income, had been received in the INSTRAW Trust Fund as at 30 September 2004. It was estimated in that report that the balance of the Trust Fund as at 31 December 2004 would be approximately \$23,717.

6. In October 2004, additional contributions of \$67,613 were received in the Trust Fund. Taking into account these contributions, the balance of the Trust Fund as at 31 December 2004 is currently projected at \$91,330. As the United Nations pledging conference for development activities is scheduled for the beginning of November 2004, it is not possible to provide a reliable estimate of 2005 income at this time.

#### IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

7. With due regard to the institutional and financial limitations placed upon the Institute, the following objectives and related activities have been formulated for 2005:

<i>Strategic objectives</i>	<i>Activities/outputs</i>
<p><b>Objective 1:</b> To promote the development and implementation of local, regional and global policies that are gender-responsive and based on results of research, the application of lessons learned and feed-back and the replication of best practices.</p>	<p>(a) Research activities promoted on gender issues in critical areas such as: (i) migration-related issues (remittances, trafficking); (ii) information and communication technologies and women's empowerment; (iii) security and gender; (iv) women's political participation; and (v) reproductive rights, as well as in global mandates such as the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action and the Millennium Development Goals;</p> <p>(b) Research conducted with partners in identified areas such as migration/trafficking, remittances, reproductive rights, women's political participation, etc.;</p> <p>(c) Capacity-building of universities supported to include gender in research activities.</p>
<p><b>Objective 2:</b> To strengthen national capacities to effectively manage gender-related knowledge to support governments and civil society in their efforts to mainstream gender into policies and programmes.</p>	<p>(a) The INSTRAW web site redesigned in a user-friendly manner within United Nations standards and providing up-to-date information on priority areas for gender mainstreaming, including the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action and the Millennium Development Goals;</p> <p>(b) Progress report assembled and posted on the web site on the 12 critical areas of the Beijing Platform of Action;</p> <p>(c) Materials and resources provided to stakeholders for gender mainstreaming developed by INSTRAW and/or with other partners within quality standards as determined by the Institute;</p> <p>(d) Information disseminated and packaged for different users (journalists, non-governmental organizations and national machineries) through the INSTRAW web site.</p>

**Objective 3:** To strengthen national capacity to design and deliver training (including e-training) on gender mainstreaming.

- (a) Training programmes, materials and tools (including trainer's rosters) for gender mainstreaming are developed and disseminated;
- (b) Best practices and experiences on mainstreaming gender in curricular and other training activities, identified and promoted;
- (c) Projects developed to identify gaps and opportunities to deliver training and e-training on gender mainstreaming.

**Objective 4:** To shape a sustainable institution that is sound, innovative and applies good governance.

- (a) The INSTRAW programme of work implemented with the participation of stakeholders (United Nations organizations, research and academic institutions and non-governmental organizations) in order to optimize the use of resources for gender mainstreaming;
  - (b) New initiatives for resources mobilization and innovative sources are explored and developed to secure a sustainable core financial and human resource base as well as for specific projects;
  - (c) Developed results-based management processes that optimize the use of resources with transparency and accountability;
  - (d) Strengthened an effective working relationship with the Executive Board crafted through systematic and interactive exchange and participation;
  - (e) Network and partnership of INSTRAW strengthened.
- 

## **V. Administrative and financial arrangements and indication of additional requirements**

8. It is assumed on the basis of the financial period of the regular budget that the period of one year indicated in paragraph 7 of draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.26 would be from 1 January to 31 December 2005. It is also understood that the request to ensure that the Institute would be able to continue functioning for a period of one year implies the continuation of the core activities of the Institute. Accordingly, resources relating to the salaries of the five Professional and five General Service staff, as well as related substantive and administrative non-post costs, would be required.

9. The related requirements for 2005 are estimated at \$1,183,760. This includes: (a) \$620,530 for 10 posts (1 D-2, 1 P-3, 3 P-2/1 and 5 General Service); (b) resource requirements for substantive activities, including general temporary assistance, consultancy and travel, estimated at \$423,000; and (c) administrative resource

requirements of \$140,230, including general operating expenses, supplies and materials, equipment, etc.

10. It is anticipated that the estimated INSTRAW Trust Fund balance of \$91,330 as at 31 December 2004, indicated in paragraph 6 above, would enable the Institute to continue its operations only until January 2005. Accordingly, an additional amount of \$1,092,430 would be required to maintain the Institute to the end of 2005.

11. It is not possible at this stage to determine whether the Institute would have adequate resources from voluntary contributions to function beyond 31 January 2005. In the event that insufficient voluntary contributions are received prior to that date, an amount of up to \$1,092,430 referred to above would have to be funded from the regular budget.

12. The programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 provides for no resources that would be made available for the support of INSTRAW operations in 2005. Any amount that the General Assembly may decide to allocate to enable the Institute to continue its operations beyond January 2005 would therefore need to be provided through an additional appropriation in the context of the operations of the contingency fund established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986.

## **VI. Summary**

13. **Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/59/L.26, the decision to provide support to the Institute would give rise to potential additional requirements of up to \$1,092,430 for the biennium 2004-2005 over and above the regular budget resources proposed under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, contingent upon availability or otherwise of additional voluntary contributions to the INSTRAW Trust Fund. The provision would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require an increase in appropriations for the biennium 2004-2005.**

---