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**Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the
Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and
the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development
and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in General Assembly resolution [67/290](#), entitled “Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development”

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Summary

The present addendum contains an update of the information provided in document [A/68/365](#) relating to the resources required for the implementation of the decisions contained in General Assembly resolution [67/290](#).

Following the issuance of that report, the General Assembly, on 20 September 2013, adopted resolution [68/1](#), entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution [61/16](#) on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”. Paragraph 16 of the annex to the resolution states:

The Economic and Social Council shall hold the regular meetings of its substantive sessions in New York and the humanitarian affairs segment shall continue to alternate between New York and Geneva. On an ad hoc and cost-effective basis, another United Nations location could be decided upon if that would contribute to a better discussion on the chosen main theme.

The Secretary-General made an oral statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/68/L.2](#) (later adopted as resolution [68/1](#)) on 20 September 2013, in which the General Assembly was informed that the details of



the financial implications would be submitted, if applicable, in accordance with the established procedures when the modalities of the meeting were determined (see [A/68/PV.2](#)).

Accordingly, the Secretary-General has revised the resource requirements in the light of paragraph 16 of the annex to resolution [68/1](#) and estimates that an additional amount of \$754,600 would be required under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 to implement the decisions of the General Assembly. The action required of the General Assembly is provided in section V below.

I. Overview

1. On 20 September 2013, the General Assembly adopted resolution 68/1, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, the Secretary-General, on the same date, made an oral statement on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/68/L.2 (later adopted as resolution 68/1), in which the Assembly was informed that details of the financial implications would be submitted, if applicable, in accordance with the established procedures when the modalities of the meeting were determined.

2. It will be recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/290, decided on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development. In accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General submitted a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/67/L.72 (subsequently adopted as resolution 67/290) setting out the additional resources required under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 to implement the decisions contained in the resolution (A/67/927). Following the adoption of the resolution, a report on revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in the resolution was issued (A/68/365).

3. The provisions contained in paragraph 16 of the annex to resolution 68/1 give rise to the additional resource requirements as follows:

(a) Travel of representatives: the decision to hold the regular meetings of the substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council in New York only will result in an increase of \$58,800 to cover the costs of the travel of representatives from least developed countries, bringing the estimated total additional resource requirements to \$754,600. It should be recalled that the previous estimate of \$695,800 covered the costs of the travel of representatives from least developed countries to sessions in New York in 2014 (\$377,300) and to Geneva in 2015 (\$318,500) (A/68/365, paras. 13 and 14);

(b) Travel of staff: the amount of \$46,000 foreseen for the travel of staff to support the session of the Council in Geneva in 2015 (*ibid.*, para. 16) is no longer required.

II. Revised estimate of additional resource requirements for the biennium 2014-2015

Additional resource requirements: \$754,600

4. The estimated additional resource requirements, based on the Secretary-General’s review of the impact of the implementation of resolutions 68/1 and 67/290, are set out below.

5. The resource requirements for the high-level political forum on sustainable development under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council Affairs and conference management, remain unchanged (see A/68/365, paras. 8 and 9).

6. The revised additional resource requirements under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015, which relate to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, are as follows:

(a) *Travel of representatives in 2014.* One representative from each least developed country would be supported for the eight-day meeting of the forum, including its ministerial segment. Travel of representatives from 49 least developed countries (one per country) to the forum meeting held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in New York will require \$377,300;

(b) *Travel of representatives in 2015.* One representative from each least developed country will be supported for the eight-day meeting of the forum. Travel of representatives from 49 least developed countries (one per country) to the forum meeting held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in New York will require \$377,300.

III. Summary of additional resource requirements

7. Additional requirements amounting to \$754,600, required for policymaking organs under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015, are related to travel of representatives in the amount of \$377,300 for each year of the biennium.

IV. Contingency fund

8. It may be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions [41/213](#) and [42/211](#), a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures were proposed that exceeded the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

V. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

9. **It is estimated that additional requirements of \$754,600 would be required under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.**

10. **The General Assembly is requested to approve the proposals of the Secretary-General for additional requirements of \$754,600 under section 9. This would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require an additional appropriation of \$754,600 for the biennium 2014-2015.**