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Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Modalities for the Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/72/L.9](#)

Thirty-fifth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/72/17](#)) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/72/L.9](#). During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with responses received on 13 December 2017.

2. Under the terms of draft resolution [A/72/L.9](#), the General Assembly would, inter alia:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to provide appropriate support from all relevant parts of the Secretariat, and in cooperation with other relevant parts of the United Nations system, in particular the International Organization for Migration, to the work of the conference and to facilitate inter-agency cooperation to that end, as



well as to ensure the efficient use of resources, so that the objectives of the conference can be achieved;

(b) Decide that the intergovernmental conference, entitled “Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”, shall be held in Morocco on 10 and 11 December 2018;

(c) Reaffirm its decision that the conference, inter alia, shall result in the adoption of an intergovernmentally negotiated and agreed outcome, entitled “Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration”;

(d) Decide that the conference shall be organized in accordance with the arrangements set forth in the note by the Secretary-General (A/72/271), taking into account paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the resolution;

(e) Decide that the conference shall comprise eight consecutive plenary meetings and two dialogues.

II. Resource requirements

3. The Secretary-General indicates that the request would entail additional resource requirements in the amount of \$668,500 for the following activities:

(a) Under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, an amount of \$83,500 for: (i) one general temporary assistance position for an Administrative Assistant (General Service (Other level)) in the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration for 12 months in 2018 to support the preparatory work leading up to the conference; and (ii) non-post requirements related to the general temporary assistance position for communications, supplies and information technology services, in line with the standard common services for New York;

(b) Under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, meeting services in the amount of \$96,000 for a total of 16 meetings (8 consecutive plenary meetings, 4 main committee meetings and 2 dialogues (comprising 4 meetings)) with interpretation in the six official languages in Morocco on 10 and 11 December 2018;

(c) Under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, documentation services in the amount of \$422,800, constituting an addition to the Department’s workload of six pre-session documents (53,600 words), four in-session documents (31,800 words), and one post-session document (45,000 words) in the six official languages;

(d) Under section 28, Public information, requirements in the amount of \$66,200 to raise awareness and to promote the Global Compact by issuing press releases on the conference in English and French, webcasting the proceedings, providing website content, producing and distributing branded promotional products and public information materials in the six official languages, providing television footage for news broadcasts, conducting media outreach and carrying out media accreditation and liaison.

4. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was provided with an overview of the tasks and responsibilities, from 1 January to 31 December 2018, of the aforementioned proposed General Service Administrative Assistant. **The Advisory Committee considers that the recruitment of the proposed Administrative Assistant may not be immediate and therefore recommends the application of a**

vacancy rate of 20 per cent in that connection. Any related operational costs should be adjusted as appropriate.

5. The Secretary-General indicates that, pursuant to operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution, if it is decided to hold the conference in Morocco, the Government of Morocco would need to defray the additional costs in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution [40/243](#), in which the Assembly decided that United Nations bodies may hold sessions away from their established headquarters when a Government issuing an invitation for a session to be held within its territory has agreed, after consultation with the Secretary-General as to their nature and possible extent, to defray the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved ([A/C.5/72/17](#), para. 14).

6. In that connection, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that an amount of \$1,856 would be required for webcasting the proceedings of the plenary meetings and the dialogue sessions, over four segments during the two-day conference, calculated at the standard fee of \$464 per segment. The Committee was also informed that, in the past, such services were covered by the respective host country agreements, for example during the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, Turkey, in May 2016, and the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito in October 2016. The Committee was furthermore informed, upon enquiry, that the host country agreement on the Intergovernmental Conference with the Government of Morocco would address a number of specific matters pertinent to the Conference, including the provision of various services, and financial and other support, such as premises.

7. The Advisory Committee welcomes the contributions of Member States towards various United Nations events, such as conferences and summits. Keeping such contributions in mind, the Committee therefore recommends against the requirements in the amount of \$1,856 for webcasting services.

8. The draft resolution indicates that representatives designated by the associate members of regional commissions may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group ([A/72/L.9](#), sect. XI, rule 61). The Advisory Committee notes, however, that the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is not listed among the participating regional commissions. In that connection, the Committee recalls its comments that documents issued in recent years on the programme budget implications of decisions taken by Member States in the context of major international conferences and summits have not presented any proposals regarding the requirements of ECE, including, for example, with respect to draft resolution [A/71/L.58](#), on the modalities for the intergovernmental negotiations of the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration ([A/72/7](#), para. V.78). The Committee recalls that the General Assembly, in operative paragraph 22 (a) of its resolution [71/280](#), requested the regional economic commissions, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, particularly the International Organization for Migration, to organize discussions among States Members of the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to examine regional and subregional aspects of international migration and to provide inputs to the preparatory process of the global compact.

9. It is indicated in the statement of the Secretary-General that no provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraphs 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 18 of the draft resolution and the annex thereto. It is also indicated that it is not possible at present to identify activities within the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified

during the biennium 2018–2019 and that it is therefore necessary that one-time requirements in the amount of \$668,500 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/C.5/72/17, para. 11).

III. Conclusion

10. Taking into account its recommendations in paragraphs 4 and 7 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution [A/72/L.9](#), an additional appropriation in the amount of \$656,144 would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, comprising \$73,000 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, \$518,800 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and \$63,344 under section 28, Public information, representing a charge against the contingency fund.
