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Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Effects of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/72/L.49/Rev.1

Forty-first 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 has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/72/L.49/Rev.1 (A/C.5/72/15). 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 14 December 2017.

2. Under the terms of draft resolution A/C.3/72/L.49/Rev.1, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the resolution to the Assembly at its seventy-third session.

II. Resource requirements

3. The Secretary-General indicates that the request would entail additional resource requirements in the amount of \$80,500 for the following activities:

(a) Under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management: documentation services in the amount of





\$32,200, constituting an addition to the Department's workload of one pre-session document (8,500 words) in the six official languages;

(b) Under section 24, Human rights: an amount of \$48,300 for one general temporary assistance position at the P-4 level for three months in 2018 to conduct research and analyse input from stakeholders on the impact of terrorism on the enjoyment of human rights and prepare the draft report of the Secretary-General.

4. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that a total of five staff (3 P-4 and 2 P-3) were currently working on the issue of human rights and terrorism at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and at the Office of Counter-Terrorism. Also upon enquiry, the Committee was informed that the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force included 36 agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, the International Criminal Police Organization and the World Customs Organization; however, no details as to the related staffing resources of the 36 entities were provided. The Committee considers that sufficient staffing resources exist within the Secretariat to perform the work related to the aforementioned pre-session document, supported by expertise available within the membership of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, in connection with the draft report of the Secretary-General, and therefore recommends against the resources for one general temporary assistance position at the P-4 level. Any related operational costs should be adjusted as appropriate.

5. It is indicated in the statement that no provisions have been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019 for the implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraph 11 of the draft resolution. 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 \$80,500 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018-2019 (see A/C.5/72/15, para. 7).

III. Conclusion

6. The Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Secretary-General considered amounts of up to \$39,000 for individual draft resolutions to be too minimal to justify requests for statements of programme budget implications.

7. Therefore, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/C.3/72/L.49/Rev.1, the Secretary-General should absorb the additional requirements requested in the amount of \$32,200 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management. Furthermore, subject to the recommendation in paragraph 4 above, no additional resources would arise in connection with section 24, Human rights.