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Report of the Economic and Social Council

Proposed programme budget for 2020

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2019 session

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides information on the budgetary impact arising from resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2019 session, held from 26 July 2018 to 24 July 2019.

The present report provides information related to Economic and Social Council resolution [2019/3](#), entitled “Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,” and resolution [2019/32](#), entitled “Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti”. The budgetary impact for 2020 relating to resolution [2019/32](#), amounting to \$44,900, would be accommodated within the overall resources that would be made available for section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2020. As regards resolution [2019/3](#), the additional costs for the hosting of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Doha in 2021 would be defrayed by the host Government. Consequently, in this regard, no additional appropriation is sought over and above the current level of the proposed programme budget for 2020.

* [A/74/150](#).



I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted to inform the General Assembly of the budgetary impact arising from the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2019 session, held from 26 July 2018 to 24 July 2019.
2. The Council adopted two resolutions in which it authorized relevant Secretariat entities to undertake additional activities, including those for which no provisions had been made in the proposed programme budget for 2020.¹
3. Should the Council adopt any resolutions and/or decisions in 2019 after the issuance of the present report that give rise to programme budget implications for 2020, the corresponding revised estimates will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

II. Budgetary impact arising from resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council

A. Resolution 2019/3: Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

4. In paragraph 16 of its resolution 2019/3, the Council welcomed with appreciation and endorsed the generous offer of the Government of Qatar to host the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Doha at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government, in 2021 for a duration of not more than five working days.
5. Pursuant to the above, it should be noted that if the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries is held in Doha, the Government of Qatar will need to defray the additional costs in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 40/243, which stipulates 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 to defray, after consultation with the Secretary-General as to their nature and possible extent, the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved.

B. Resolution 2019/32: Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

6. In paragraphs 13 to 16 of its resolution 2019/32, the Council:
 - (a) Decided to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti until the conclusion of the 2020 session, with the purpose of following closely and providing advice on the long-term development strategy of Haiti to promote socioeconomic recovery, reconstruction and stability, with particular attention to the need to ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti, based on the long-term national development priorities, building upon the Strategic Plan for the Development of Haiti, and stressing the need to avoid overlap and duplication with respect to existing mechanisms;
 - (b) Expressed its satisfaction to the Secretary-General for the support provided to the Advisory Group, and requested him to continue to support the activities of the Group adequately and within existing resources;

¹ The proposed programme budget for 2020 is contained in document [A/74/6 \(Introduction\)](#) and separate budget section documents (Sects. 1–36 and Income sects. 1–3) and related corrigenda.

(c) Requested the Advisory Group, in accomplishing its mandate, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Haiti and Head of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti and future Head of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti, the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and institutions, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community, the Union of South American Nations and the Inter-American Development Bank, other major stakeholders and civil society organizations, and in this regard welcomed the continuation of the dialogue between the members of the Advisory Group and the Organization of American States;

(d) Also requested the Advisory Group to submit a report on its work, with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration at its 2020 session.

7. It is estimated that the support to be provided to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group would amount to \$44,900 (see table 1), for which no provision had been made in the proposed programme budget for 2020, and would consist of the following: (a) the travel expenses of members of the Advisory Group and up to two staff members of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to meet with the international financial institutions and the Organization of American States in 2020 and undertake a mission to Haiti in the same year (\$40,400); and (b) meeting support services and other expenses in Haiti (\$4,500).

Table 1

Resource requirements under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the year 2020

(United States dollars)

	<i>Total requirements 2020</i>
Travel of representatives	36 500
Travel of staff	3 900
Contractual services	4 500
Total	44 900

8. In the context of the consideration of previous Council resolutions extending the mandate of the Advisory Group, the most recent one being resolution 2018/19, the related requirements were accommodated within section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. It is likewise proposed that the resource requirements in the amount of \$44,900 arising from the adoption of resolution 2019/32 be accommodated within the overall resources that would be made available for section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2020.

9. With regard to the provisions of paragraph 14 of resolution 2019/32, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to support the activities of the Advisory Group adequately and within existing resources, the attention of the Council was drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B and subsequent resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 72/261, in which the Assembly had reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative

and budgetary matters and had also reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

III. Overall requirements

10. The budgetary impact of the resolutions adopted by the Council during its 2019 session amount to \$44,900 and relate to the proposed programme budget for 2020; it is proposed that this amount be accommodated within the overall resources that would be made available under section 9, Economic and social affairs of the proposed programme budget 2020.

IV. Conclusions and recommendations

11. The resource requirements in the amount of \$44,900 arising from the adoption of resolution [2019/32](#) would be accommodated within the overall resources that would be made available under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2020. Consequently, in this regard, no additional appropriation is sought over and above the current level of the proposed programme budget for 2020.

12. The General Assembly is requested to take note of the generous offer of the Government of Qatar to host the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Doha in 2021.
