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Agenda items 9 and 141

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Proposed programme budget for 2021

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report provides information on the budgetary impact arising from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session, which commenced on 23 July 2020.

In particular, the present report provides estimated resource requirements related to Economic and Social Council decision 2021/209, entitled “Date of the 2020 resumed session and dates and provisional agenda of the 2021 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations”. The budgetary impact relating to that decision for 2021 amounts to \$78,000, under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and \$9,400 under section 36, Staff assessment.

It is proposed in section III of the present report that the resource requirements for 2021 in the amount of \$78,000 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, be appropriated, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund for 2021; an additional appropriation in the amount of \$9,400 under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2021, is also proposed, which would be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.



I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted to request the approval by the General Assembly of an additional appropriation relating to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session, which commenced on 23 July 2020.
2. On 25 November 2020, the Council adopted decision 2021/209, in which it authorized the Secretariat to undertake additional activities, resulting in financial implications for which no provision had been made in the proposed programme budget for 2021.¹ In accordance with rule 31 of its rules of procedure, the Council was provided with the statement of programme budget implications prior to the adoption of the decision.
3. Should the Council adopt any additional resolutions or decisions during its 2021 session, after the issuance of the present report, that give rise to programme budget implications, the corresponding report on revised estimates will be issued as an addendum to the present report.

II. Budgetary impact of decision 2021/209: date of the 2020 resumed session and dates and provisional agenda of the 2021 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

4. Under the terms of subparagraphs (a) to (d) of its decision 2021/209, the Economic and Social Council:
 - (a) Noted that the 2020 resumed session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations did not take place in August 2020, as rescheduled,² owing to constraints related to the continuing impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies;
 - (b) Decided to authorize, on an exceptional basis, the holding of the 2020 resumed session of the Committee, consisting of one meeting, in the last quarter of 2020, to review, pursuant to resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, the suspension, withdrawal and reinstatement of status of non-governmental organizations;
 - (c) Also decided that, owing to the impossibility of convening a full-scale resumed session in 2020 as a result of the aforementioned constraints, the 2021 regular session of the Committee would be held from 18 to 29 January and on 10 February 2021, and its resumed session from 17 to 25 May and on 27 May and 7 June 2021;
 - (d) Further decided, on an exceptional basis, to authorize the Committee to consider the documentation issued for the 2020 resumed session at its 2021 session.
5. The activities referred to in the decision relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme plan for 2021, and section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 2\)](#)) of the proposed programme budget for 2021.
6. Pursuant to the requests contained in the decision, it is envisaged that the regular and resumed sessions of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be

¹ The proposed programme budget for 2021 is contained in documents [A/75/6 \(Introduction\)](#) and separate budget section documents (Sects. 1–36 and Income sects. 1–3) and related corrigenda.

² See Economic and Social Council resolution [2020/4](#), para. 2 (c) (ii).

held from 18 to 29 January and on 10 February 2021, and from 17 to 25 May and on 27 May and 7 June 2021, would consist of a total of 38 meetings, with interpretation in the six official languages, and would be held in New York. Of the 38 meetings, 8 meetings, over five days, would constitute additional deliverables for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in 2021.

7. Pursuant to subparagraph (c) of the decision, it is estimated that additional non-recurrent resources in the amount of \$78,000 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and \$9,400 under section 36, Staff assessment, would be required in support of the additional meetings in 2021, as detailed in the table below.

Resource requirements under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and section 36, Staff assessment

(United States dollars)

<i>Additional requirements, 2021</i>	
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	
Interpretation	78 000
Section 36, Staff assessment	
Staff assessment	9 400
Total	87 400

8. No provisions have been made in the proposed programme budget for 2021 for the implementation of the additional activities requested in decision 2021/209. At this stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant section of the proposed programme budget for 2021 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during 2021. It is therefore necessary that the additional resource requirements totalling \$87,400 be provided through additional appropriations for 2021.

9. Pursuant to the requests contained in decision 2021/209, the additional activities in 2021 result from scheduled meetings that are being reprogrammed from 2020 to 2021. Accordingly, the difference between the resources approved for 2020 and the final expenditure under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, will include unspent resources related to the 2020 resumed session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, and will as such be surrendered in the context of the financial performance report for 2020, to be submitted to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-sixth session.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

10. **The General Assembly is requested:**

(a) **To approve an additional appropriation, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund for 2021, in the amount of \$78,000 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for 2021;**

(b) **To approve an additional appropriation in the amount of \$9,400 under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2021, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.**