



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-fifth session

Agenda items 98 and 141

### Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

#### Proposed programme budget for 2021

## Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/27](#) of 5 December 2018

### Programme budget implications of draft decision [A/C.1/75/L.47](#)

#### Twenty-seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2021

## I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/75/14](#)), in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of draft decision [A/C.1/75/L.47](#) on the Open-ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security established pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/27](#) of 5 December 2018. During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee interacted remotely with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 2 December 2020.

2. Under the terms of draft decision [A/C.1/75/L.47](#), the General Assembly would, inter alia, decide that the Open-ended Working Group, while continuing its current work pursuant to its mandate under resolution [73/27](#), should convene its third and final substantive session from 8 to 12 March 2021.

3. The statement of the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/75/14](#)) provides further information on: (a) the relationship of the proposed requests to the proposed programme budget for 2021 (*ibid.*, para. 3); (b) the activities by which the proposed



requests would be implemented (*ibid.*, paras. 4–6); (c) the financial implications of the proposals (*ibid.*, paras. 7–13); and (d) the potential for absorption during 2021 (*ibid.*, para. 16).

## II. Resource requirements

4. The implementation of the proposed requests would entail additional resource requirements totalling \$187,500 in 2021. These resources would include the following requirements:

(a) **Conference-servicing.** An amount of \$168,700 in non-recurrent resources under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would be required in support of meetings and documentation for the third and final substantive session of the Open-ended Working Group, consisting of 10 meetings, to be held in New York from 8 to 12 March 2021. The requirement would provide for interpretation (\$84,000), pre-session documentation (\$52,800) and post-session documentation (\$31,900);

(b) **Non-conference-servicing.** An amount of \$18,800 under section 4, Disarmament, would cover the costs of the services and travel of a consultant.

5. The Secretary-General indicates that a provision of \$187,500, which was approved in the programme budget for 2020, will be surrendered in the context of the financial performance report for 2020.

6. The Secretary-General also indicates that no provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for 2021 for the implementation of the activities requested in the draft decision and that, at this stage, it is not possible to identify activities that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during 2021.

## III. Conclusion

7. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should the Assembly adopt draft decision A/C.1/75/L.47, additional resource requirements in the amount of \$187,500 for 2021 would arise under the proposed programme budget for 2021, comprising \$168,700 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and \$18,800 under section 4, Disarmament. The amount of \$187,500 would require an additional appropriation for 2021 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**