



General Assembly

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Proposed programme budget for 2021

Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

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

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered an advance version of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates” (A/C.5/75/20). During its consideration of the report, the Committee requested additional information and clarification on 10 December 2020.
2. In his report, the Secretary-General indicates that the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates follows the guidelines for the contingency fund contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 42/211.
3. The Advisory Committee recalls that, in 2019, in his report on the contingency fund (A/C.5/74/14), the Secretary-General had requested the General Assembly to set the level of the contingency fund for 2021 at 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2020, or \$23,053,700. In its resolution 74/263, the Assembly did not make a decision regarding the level of the contingency fund for 2021. The Secretary-General states that, in estimating the potential charges against the contingency fund for 2021, he is proposing to use the amount of \$23,053,700, or 0.75 per cent of the approved budget for 2020, as the level of the contingency fund for 2021 (see A/C.5/75/20, paras. 3–4).
4. In his report, the Secretary-General further indicates that, on the basis of the information available at the time of the finalization of the report, the potential charges against the contingency fund for 2021 amounted to \$48,171,300 and exceeded the proposed level of the fund of \$23,053,700 by \$25,117,600.
5. Tables 1 and 2 of the report of the Secretary-General detail the potential charges by report and by budget section, respectively. The Advisory Committee requested, but did not receive, updated versions of tables 1 and 2 including an additional column indicating the adjustments recommended by the Committee. **The Advisory Committee trusts that the requested information will be provided to the General**



Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report, along with an updated list of potential charges to the contingency fund, clearly indicating any recurrent ones.

6. The Advisory Committee reiterates its view that the contingency fund is an essential budgetary instrument for addressing additional resource requirements and emphasizes the need to adhere to the provisions of General Assembly resolutions [41/213](#) and [42/211](#) on its use. In the event of any constraints faced, including potential charges that exceed the resources available within the contingency fund, the Committee trusts that the Secretary-General will bring those matters to the attention of the Assembly in a timely manner in the context of the future proposed programme budgets (see also [A/70/7/Add.34](#)).

7. The Advisory Committee recommends that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to provide it with updated information on the status of potential charges against the contingency fund on a regular basis.
