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Proposed programme budget for 2022

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2022

Part III

International justice and law

Section 7

International Court of Justice

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* [A/76/50](#).

** The part consisting of the proposed programme plan for 2022 is submitted for the consideration of the General Assembly in accordance with the established budgetary procedures and practices reaffirmed in paragraph 13 of resolution [72/266 A](#).

*** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution [72/266 A](#), the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly.



Foreword

The International Court of Justice is one of the six main organs of the United Nations, and its principal judicial organ. Its mission and activities are governed by the Charter of the United Nations and by its Statute, which forms an integral part of the Charter.

As the only judicial institution of a universal character with general jurisdiction, the Court is seized of disputes involving States from all regions of the world and relating to a wide variety of issues, ranging from territorial and maritime claims to diplomatic and consular rights, human rights, international responsibility, the use of force, the interpretation and application of international treaties and the protection of the environment.

Having dealt with over 150 contentious cases since its creation, the Court has, over the years, reinforced its position as the main universal and permanent judicial forum for the settlement of inter-State disputes in accordance with international law. Furthermore, by giving 27 advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies, the Court has continued to assist them in the exercise of their powers, thereby fulfilling an essential role for the functioning of the United Nations system and the development of international law.

As it is about to celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary in 2021, the Court maintains an intense level of activity, showing the present-day dynamism of the institution and the continued trust that States place in it for the peaceful resolution of their disputes. In line with the trend observed in previous years, the Court's docket remained busy in 2020, with 14 pending cases before the Court as at 31 December 2020. In addition, the degree of procedural and substantive complexity of cases submitted to the Court has increased in recent years, posing new challenges for the Court. Indeed, several cases currently on the Court's docket have been the subject of incidental proceedings (mainly requests for the indication of provisional measures and preliminary objections to the jurisdiction of the Court) and involve abundant technical or scientific factual data, for which the Court may require, or has required, the assistance of experts.

In order to meet the demands of its caseload, the Court sets itself an ambitious schedule of work, enabling it to consider several cases simultaneously and to deliver its decisions as promptly as possible. The Court also continues to regularly review its working methods in order to carry out its judicial tasks in an efficient and orderly manner. For instance, in 2020, the Court amended its Rules to adapt to the need to work remotely during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, demonstrating its flexibility and ability to meet any challenges which might lie ahead. Those amendments allowed the Court to continue to perform its judicial functions in 2020, by providing for the possibility to hold hearings and organize public readings of the Court's judgments via video link.

In preparing its budgetary proposals for 2022, the Court has focused on the financial resources that are essential for the discharge of its judicial functions, in particular costs directly linked to the organization and management of oral and written proceedings in cases submitted to it. While the Court remains committed to fulfilling the important mandate entrusted to it under the Charter of the United Nations with the utmost efficiency, it is also concerned with preserving its autonomy, independence and impartiality, and the integrity of its judicial functions to ensure the sound administration of justice in the service of the international community. In this regard, it must be recalled that, considering its volume of activity and its key role in the system established by the Charter for maintaining international peace and security, the Court undoubtedly constitutes an extremely cost-effective means for the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

(Signed) Philippe **Gautier**
Registrar

A. Proposed programme plan for 2022 and programme performance for 2020

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 7.1 The International Court of Justice is responsible for settling, in accordance with international law, legal disputes that are submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by bodies authorized to do so under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations. It is composed of 15 judges elected by the General Assembly and the Security Council and is one of six principal organs of the United Nations and the principal judicial organ of the Organization. It functions in accordance with its Statute, which is an integral part of the Charter. All 193 States Members of the United Nations are parties to the Statute, and 74 of them have recognized the Court's jurisdiction as compulsory, in line with Article 36, paragraph 2, of its Statute. In addition, more than 300 bilateral and multilateral treaties grant the Court compulsory jurisdiction in the resolution of various types of disputes. States that are not members of the United Nations may become parties to the Statute on conditions to be determined in each case by the Assembly upon the recommendation of the Council. The Court may also be open to States not parties to its Statute, subject to the conditions laid down by the Council and currently set out in its resolution [9 \(1946\)](#), adopted on 15 October 1946. The Court submits annual reports to the Assembly, the most recent of which is contained in document [A/75/4](#). Under the terms of regulation 2.14 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the programme budget proposals of the Court are prepared by the Court, in consultation with the Secretary-General, and are submitted to the Assembly by the Secretary-General, together with such observations as he or she may deem desirable.
- 7.2 The activities of the Court are not covered in the proposed programme plan. Although the Court cannot forecast its main workload indicators (e.g., the number of cases that will be pending before the Court in 2022 and the number of new proceedings that will be instituted, including incidental proceedings in pending cases), it has made every effort to assess its requirements for 2022 against the background of the Court's workload for the current and previous budgetary periods.
- 7.3 While the Court has no control over the volume of its activities, which depend in large part on the number of proceedings that will be instituted before it, it must at all times be able to exercise the functions entrusted to it under the Charter. New cases are brought before the Court by States, and advisory opinions are requested of the Court by authorized organs of the United Nations and specialized agencies, all of whom may seize the Court at any time, without prior notice. When a case is pending before the Court, it is not possible to anticipate whether and when recourse will be made to incidental proceedings (requests for provisional measures, preliminary objections, counterclaims and requests to intervene). Historically, there have been significant variations in the number of new proceedings commenced in a given year, although in recent times there has been an upward trend in the Court's caseload. In order to meet the demands of its workload, the Court now routinely considers two to three cases simultaneously. The workload represented by each decision of the Court is particularly high. In principle, the parties (which are sovereign States) to cases brought before the Court each submit one set of written pleadings to the Court: a memorial and a counter-memorial. The Court may authorize them to submit a further set of pleadings, namely, a reply and a rejoinder; it may also itself require these pleadings, if it considers this necessary. In practice, these additional pleadings are almost always submitted. The pleadings are tending to become increasingly voluminous, notwithstanding the Court's appeals to the parties not to repeat arguments already exposed. Hearings can also be long and complex, depending on the nature of the case. In cases involving difficult factual issues (e.g., of a highly technical character), parties may call witnesses and experts to testify. Once it has heard the submissions of the parties, the Court does everything in its power to deliver a judgment within as short a time as possible, allowing for the complexity of the case. The entire proceedings must be conducted simultaneously in both of the Court's official languages, English and French, both at the written and oral stages and during deliberations.

- 7.4 In deciding the cases submitted to it, the Court renders decisions that form a coherent body of jurisprudence and serve as guidelines for avoiding and resolving disputes that may arise between other States. In addition, in giving advisory opinions in response to the requests of duly authorized organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations, the Court facilitates the proper functioning of the United Nations system and contributes to preventive diplomacy and the development of international law.
- 7.5 Given that the Court is both a judicial body and an international institution that is administratively independent from the Secretariat, its Registry must take on the dual role of providing assistance to the Court in the exercise of its judicial functions and managing the administrative and budgetary matters of an international secretariat. In carrying out this role, the Registry is guided by the Statute, the Rules of the Court and the Instructions for the Registry. It is responsible for administrative, conference, computerization, archival, distribution and documentary and library services, and acts as the regular channel for communications to and from the Court. In addition, the Registry provides legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical support to the Court. Pursuant to Article 21, paragraph 2, of the Statute and article 22 of the Rules of the Court, the Registrar is elected by the Court for a term of seven years and may be re-elected. Article 23 of the Rules of the Court provides for the election of a Deputy-Registrar following the same procedure as that of the election of the Registrar. In accordance with Article 21, paragraph 2, of the Statute, the staff of the Registry are appointed by the Court. The Court adopts its own staff regulations.

Programme of work

Registry

Objective

- 7.6 The objective, to which the Registry contributes, is to ensure that the needs of the Court are met in an efficient and effective manner for the sound administration of international justice and the fulfilment by the Court of its mandate under the Charter.

Strategy

- 7.7 To contribute to the objective, the Registry will continue to respond to the needs of the Court to enable it to carry out its judicial activities. While it is difficult to foresee precisely the specific needs of the Court, the Registry will continue to ensure the timely provision of substantive, conference, secretariat and documentation services and legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical support in cases pending before the Court.
- 7.8 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in the needs of the Court being met in an effective and efficient manner in 2022.

External factors for 2022

- 7.9 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2022 is based on the planning assumption that the Court's judicial activities in 2022 will involve a similar level of work as in 2021.
- 7.10 With regard to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the proposed programme plan is based on the assumption that the proposed deliverables and activities for 2022 will be feasible to implement. However, if the pandemic were to have a further impact on the planned deliverables and activities, they would be adjusted during 2022 within the scope of the overall objectives, strategies and mandates. Any such adjustments would be reported as part of the programme performance information.
- 7.11 With regard to cooperation with other entities, the Registry of the Court will continue to cooperate closely with United Nations offices and institutions in 2022. In 2020, the Office of Legal Affairs in

the United Nations Secretariat helped in arranging virtual meetings between the President and Registrar of the Court and high-ranking officials of the Organization in lieu of the annual visit of a delegation of the International Court of Justice to the Secretariat on the occasion of International Law Week in the autumn of 2020. In addition, over the course of 2020, staff members of the Department of Linguistic Matters and the Information Technology Division participated in various virtual meetings and exchanges of views with international organizations in The Hague on the topic of remote interpretation in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Programme performance in 2020

- 7.12 Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

Streamlining the Court's activities through ongoing review of its procedures and working methods

- 7.13 In 2020, the Court implemented measures to ensure that it carries out its judicial work in the most efficient manner and to ensure the continued fulfilment of its mandate during the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, the Court amended certain provisions of its Rules to allow for oral proceedings and readings of its judgments to take place by video link when this is necessary for health, security or other compelling reasons. The organization of hybrid hearings has required the Registry to actively engage with parties to cases before the Court to provide them with the technical assistance necessary to ensure the smooth conduct of proceedings. Hybrid hearings have also entailed making specific arrangements with respect to virtual simultaneous interpretation and the electronic distribution of case-related documents.
- 7.14 Furthermore, as part of the ongoing regular review of its procedures and working methods, the Court adopted a new article of its Resolution concerning the Internal Judicial Practice of the Court, which puts into place a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of provisional measures indicated by the Court.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 7.15 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the amendment by the Court of articles 59 and 94 of its Rules to allow for oral proceedings and readings of its judgments to take place by video link, and the adoption of a new article 11 of its Resolution concerning the Internal Judicial Practice of the Court, which provides for the establishment of a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of provisional measures indicated by the Court (see table 7.1).

Table 7.1
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
N/A	As part of the ongoing review of its procedures and working methods, the Court amended articles 22, 23, 29, 76 and 79 of its Rules.	As part of the ongoing review of its procedures and working methods, the Court amended articles 59 and 94 of its Rules to allow for oral proceedings and readings of its judgments to take place by video link, and adopted a new article 11 of its Resolution concerning the Internal Judicial Practice of the Court.

Abbreviation: N/A, not applicable.

Impact of COVID-19 on programme delivery

- 7.16 During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the planned deliverables and activities of the International Court of Justice. The impact included the suspension of the Court's hearings between March and May 2020, resulting in the postponement of the oral proceedings in the case *Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 (Guyana v. Venezuela)* from March to June 2020 and the reorganization of the Court's schedule of work. Other temporary impacts on the Court's planned activities included the suspension of meetings of the Court for one month (mid-March to mid-April 2020) and of official travel of its members. In addition, the Court had to postpone one set of hearings in the case concerning *Maritime Delimitation in the Indian Ocean (Somalia v. Kenya)* from June 2020 until March 2021, following a request made for postponement owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. These changes had an impact on the programme performance in 2020, as specified under results 1 and 2 below.
- 7.17 The Court has made the necessary arrangements to adapt its working methods to the need to work remotely in order to continue to perform its judicial functions in the service of Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific examples of such arrangements include the amendment of the Court's Rules to allow for hearings and readings of the Court's judgments to take place by video link when this is necessary for health, security or other compelling reasons. As a result of these arrangements, the Court was able to hold four out of the five sets of hearings it had planned for 2020. Three of those sets of hearings were held in a hybrid format, with the physical presence of some members of the Court in the Great Hall of Justice and other members and party representatives participating remotely. In addition, with the use of upgraded videoconference technology, the Registry was able to support the Court in continuing to hold its private meetings on budgetary, administrative and judicial matters, and to pursue the consideration of cases pending on its docket, allowing it to render judgments in four cases in 2020.
- 7.18 Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the evolving needs of Member States, the programme will mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of its programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific examples of best practices include the continuing adaptation of the Court's working methods, through increased reliance on videoconferencing technology.

Planned results for 2022

- 7.19 The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: continuation of the Court's sustained level of activity¹**Programme performance in 2020**

- 7.20 The Registry continued its work related to the Court's judicial proceedings, in line with its mandate, by providing substantive, conference, secretariat and documentation services and legal, diplomatic and linguistic support in cases pending before the Court, enabling it to carry out all its judicial activities in 2020. Furthermore, owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Registry of the Court was called upon to provide increased assistance to the Court in the area of information and communications technology, in order to ensure the smooth organization of the meetings and public sittings on a remote basis.
- 7.21 The above-mentioned work contributed to the timely provision of services by the Registry to the Court, which met the planned target, reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

¹ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 7)).

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 7.22 The Registry will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the Registry will continue to respond to the needs of the Court, including by providing legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical assistance to the Court in its judicial work and, if necessary, by adapting the ways in which it supports the Court to allow it to effectively discharge its judicial functions. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 7.2).

Table 7.2

Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases	Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases	Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases	Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases	Timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the proposed programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 2: meeting the Court's sustained workload²

Programme performance in 2020

- 7.23 In 2020, the Court delivered four judgments in contentious proceedings, one order on a request for the indication of provisional measures, two orders related to the appointment of experts and a number of other orders directing the proceedings in the cases pending before it. As at 31 December 2020, there were 14 contentious cases pending before the Court.
- 7.24 Of the four judgments rendered by the Court in 2020, one dealt with the question of its jurisdiction in the case relating to the *Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 (Guyana v. Venezuela)*, while the other three dealt with the merits of the claims respectively submitted by the applicants in the cases *Immunities and Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)*, *Appeal Relating to the Jurisdiction of the ICAO Council under Article 84 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates v. Qatar)*, and *Appeal Relating to the Jurisdiction of the ICAO Council under Article II, Section 2, of the 1944 International Air Services Transit Agreement (Bahrain, Egypt and United Arab Emirates v. Qatar)*.
- 7.25 During the same period, the Court held public hearings on the merits or on incidental proceedings in four contentious cases. In addition to the hearings held in the above-mentioned cases *Arbitral Award of 3 October 1899 (Guyana v. Venezuela)* and *Immunities and Criminal Proceedings (Equatorial Guinea v. France)*, the Court also held hearings on preliminary objections in the cases concerning *Alleged Violations of the 1955 Treaty of Amity, Economic Relations, and Consular Rights (Islamic Republic of Iran v. United States of America)* and *Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Qatar v. United Arab Emirates)*.
- 7.26 Over the course of the year, the Court also issued three substantive orders: one order dealt with the request for the indication of provisional measures submitted by the Gambia in the case related to the *Application of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (The Gambia v. Myanmar)*, while the other two concerned the Court's decision to arrange for an expert

² As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6 (Sect. 7)).

opinion and to appoint experts in the case concerning *Armed Activities on the Territory of the Congo (Democratic Republic of the Congo v. Uganda)*.

- 7.27 The services provided by the Registry in relation with the above-mentioned cases contributed to the smooth conduct of the Court's judicial work in those proceedings, which met the planned target of ensuring that the needs of the Court are met in an efficient and effective manner for the sound administration of international justice and the fulfilment by the Court of its mandate under the Charter, as reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2021.

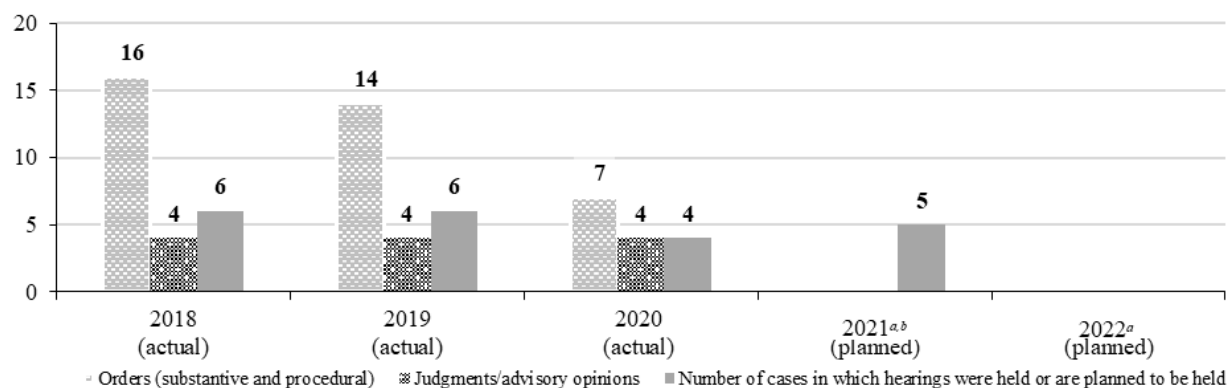
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 7.28 The Registry will continue its work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the Registry will continue to support the Court's judicial activities and respond to its needs in connection with cases that will be pending before it. While the number of cases that will be submitted to the Court in 2022 cannot be foreseen, it is expected that the Court will continue to deal with several cases simultaneously, considering the number of cases currently pending on its docket. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 7.I).

Figure 7.I

Performance measure: timely provision by the Registry of services to the Court in pending cases

(Number of cases in which hearings were held or are planned to be held and number of decisions rendered or planned to be rendered)



^a The number of cases in which hearings will be held and the number of decisions that will be rendered are unforeseeable for 2021 and 2022.

^b For 2021, the Court has set tentative dates for hearings in five cases.

Result 3: improved outreach to promote awareness and understanding of the Court's role as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 7.29 In recent years, the Registry of the Court launched outreach initiatives aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of the Court's mission and work through the use of technology. In May 2019, the Court launched a free mobile application called "CIJ-ICJ", which allows users to keep abreast of developments at the Court in its two official languages, French and English, by providing essential information on the Court and its activities, including on pending and concluded cases, decisions, press releases and the Court's judicial calendar. In addition, over the last five years, the Court has further developed and strengthened its social media profile, launching its own LinkedIn, Twitter and YouTube accounts, and continued to improve the content, appeal and usability of its website.

Lessons learned and planned change

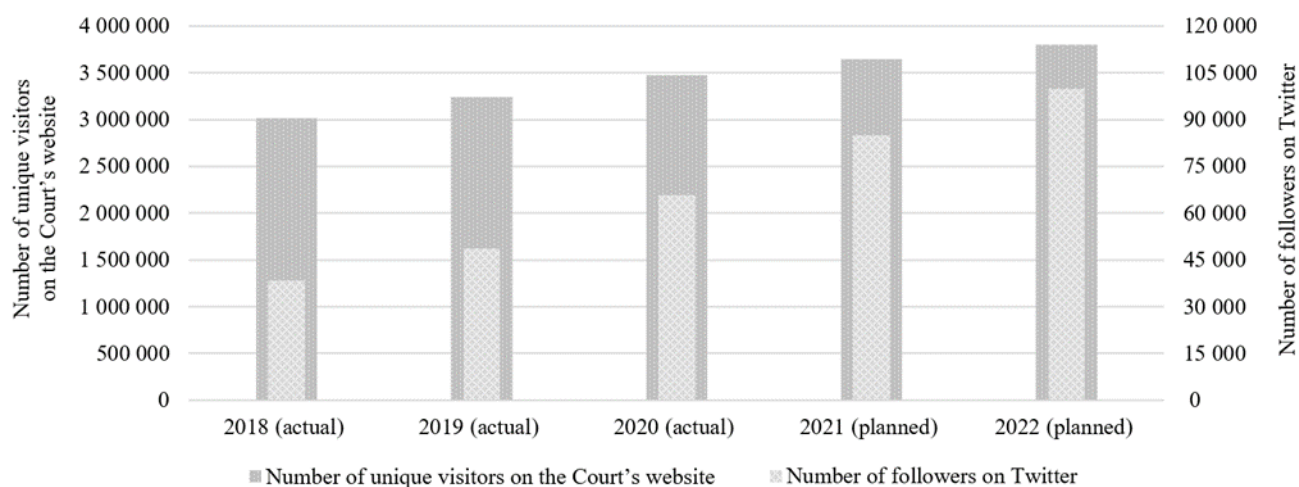
- 7.30 The lesson for the Registry was the limitation of using technology and social media to promote awareness in the absence of a comprehensive communication strategy. In applying the lesson and in order to promote better understanding of and interest in the Court's mission and work, by providing comprehensive and widely accessible information on its proceedings and functioning, the Registry will analyse the various communication channels and create a harmonized approach to engaging with public audiences and key interest groups. Based on the iterative findings of what works and with a clearer identification of public information goals and objectives, the Registry will continue to enrich and refine the content of its website and social media platforms with a view to raising the Court's profile as an effective instrument at the disposal of States to settle their disputes peacefully.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 7.31 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the yearly number of unique visitors on the Court's website and number of followers on Twitter (see figure 7.II).

Figure 7.II

Performance measure: Number of unique visitors on the Court's website and number of followers on Twitter

**Legislative mandates**

- 7.32 The International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. Its activities are governed by the Charter of the United Nations and by its Statute, which forms an integral part of the Charter.

Deliverables

- 7.33 Table 7.3 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 7.3

Registry: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1	1	1	1
1. Annual report of the Court to the General Assembly	1	1	1	1
Judicial documentation (number of judgments, advisory opinions and orders)	Unforeseeable^a	11	Unforeseeable^a	Unforeseeable^a
2. Judgments, advisory opinions and orders	Unforeseeable ^a	11	Unforeseeable ^a	Unforeseeable ^a
Substantive services for judicial proceedings (number of documents)	1 685	1 408	1 685	1 685
3. Preparation of documents (minutes of private meetings of the Court, case-related letters and distributions prepared, memorandums, speeches, etc.)	1 685	1 408	1 685	1 685
Conference and secretariat services for judicial proceedings (number of three-hour sittings)	133	141	149	149
4. Interpretation at private meetings and public hearings of the Court	133	141	149	149
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	2	2	2	2
5. Meetings of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
6. Meetings of the Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
Documentation services for judicial proceedings (thousands of words)	26 460	27 919	27 660	27 660
7. Translation of documents related to the Court's judicial activities	7 660	7 282	7 660	7 660
8. Processing (editing and proofreading) of documents related to the Court's judicial activities	18 800	20 637	20 000	20 000
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Publications of the Court (number of publications)	33	25	28	26
9. Applications/special agreements (including annexes)	6	–	Unforeseeable ^a	Unforeseeable ^a
10. <i>ICJ Reports</i> : bound volumes of judgments, advisory opinions and orders of the Court	2	1	2	2
11. Relevant chapter in <i>Yearbook of the United Nations</i>	1	1	1	1
12. Pleadings series volumes	20	20	20	20
13. <i>International Court of Justice Annuaire/Yearbook</i>	1	1	1	1
14. Other publications of the Court (non-recurrent, reprints, publications for special occasions (illustrated books, handbooks, etc.))	3	2	4	2
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials : organization of exhibits, lectures and guided tours for legal and academic visitors, the diplomatic community, students and journalists; and distribution of leaflets, fact sheets and flyers on the Court.				
External and media relations : press releases and summaries of decisions.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content : updating and maintenance of the website and social media platforms of the Court.				

^a It is inherently impossible to forecast the number of cases that will be pending before the Court and the number of new proceedings that will be instituted, including incidental proceedings in pending cases.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2022

Overview

- 7.34 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 7.4 to 7.6.

Table 7.4

Overall: evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2020 expenditure ^a	2021 appropriation	Changes					2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post	13 560.8	16 465.5	101.1	—	—	101.1	0.6	16 566.6
Other staff costs	1 244.6	1 643.7	—	—	77.4	77.4	4.7	1 721.1
Non-staff compensation	6 842.1	8 044.2	(139.3)	—	(115.8)	(255.1)	(3.2)	7 789.1
Hospitality	1.6	22.5	(13.3)	—	—	(13.3)	(59.1)	9.2
Consultants	53.9	16.2	—	—	33.0	33.0	203.7	49.2
Experts	54.4	73.1	—	—	—	—	—	73.1
Travel of staff	—	41.0	—	—	15.2	15.2	37.1	56.2
Contractual services	1 266.8	1 462.3	—	—	149.0	149.0	10.2	1 611.3
General operating expenses	2 154.3	2 270.0	(8.1)	—	(35.6)	(43.7)	(1.9)	2 226.3
Supplies and materials	274.9	376.8	(58.4)	—	1.2	(57.2)	(15.2)	319.6
Furniture and equipment	309.6	209.9	(11.1)	—	45.6	34.5	16.4	244.4
Grants and contributions	124.5	153.6	—	—	(33.2)	(33.2)	(21.6)	120.4
Other	(145.3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	25 742.3	30 778.8	(129.1)	—	136.8	7.7	0.0	30 786.5

^a At the time of reporting, the expenditures presented in this table and in subsequent tables are not final and may be subject to adjustments that could result in minor differences between the information contained in the present report and the financial statements to be published by 31 March 2021.

Table 7.5

Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2022

(Number of posts)

	Number	Details
Approved for 2021	117	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 1 D-1, 4 P-5, 17 P-4, 17 P-3, 20 P-2/1, 6 GS (PL), 50 GS (OL)
Post changes	—	
Proposed for 2022	117	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 1 D-1, 4 P-5, 17 P-4, 17 P-3, 20 P-2/1, 6 GS (PL), 50 GS (OL)

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and figures: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

Table 7.6
Overall: proposed posts by category and grade

(Number of posts)

Category and grade	2021 approved	Changes				Total	2022 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Professional and higher							
ASG	1	—	—	—	—	1	
D-2	1	—	—	—	—	1	
D-1	1	—	—	—	—	1	
P-5	4	—	—	—	—	4	
P-4	17	—	—	—	—	17	
P-3	17	—	—	—	—	17	
P-2/1	20	—	—	—	—	20	
Subtotal	61	—	—	—	—	61	
General Service and related							
GS (PL)	6	—	—	—	—	6	
GS (OL)	50	—	—	—	—	50	
Subtotal	56	—	—	—	—	56	
Total	117	—	—	—	—	117	

7.35 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in tables 7.7 to 7.9 and figure 7.III.

7.36 As reflected in tables 7.7 and 7.9, the overall resources proposed for 2022 amount to \$30,786,500 before recosting, reflecting a net increase of \$7,700 (or 0.03 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2021. Resource changes result from two factors, namely: (a) technical adjustments; and (b) other changes. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 7.7
Overall: evolution of financial resources by component

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Regular budget

Component	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes				Total	Percentage	2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other				
Members of the Court	6 896.5	8 134.6	(139.3)	—	(108.4)	(247.7)	(3.0)		7 886.9
Registry	14 970.6	18 446.5	87.8	—	85.0	172.8	0.9		18 619.3
Programme support	3 875.2	4 197.7	(77.6)	—	160.2	82.6	2.0		4 280.3
Total	25 742.3	30 778.8	(129.1)	—	136.8	7.7	0.0		30 786.5

Table 7.8

Overall: proposed posts for 2022 by component

(Number of posts)

Regular budget

Component	2021 approved	Changes				2022 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Members of the Court	–	–	–	–	–	–
Registry	117	–	–	–	–	117
Programme support	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	117	–	–	–	–	117

Table 7.9

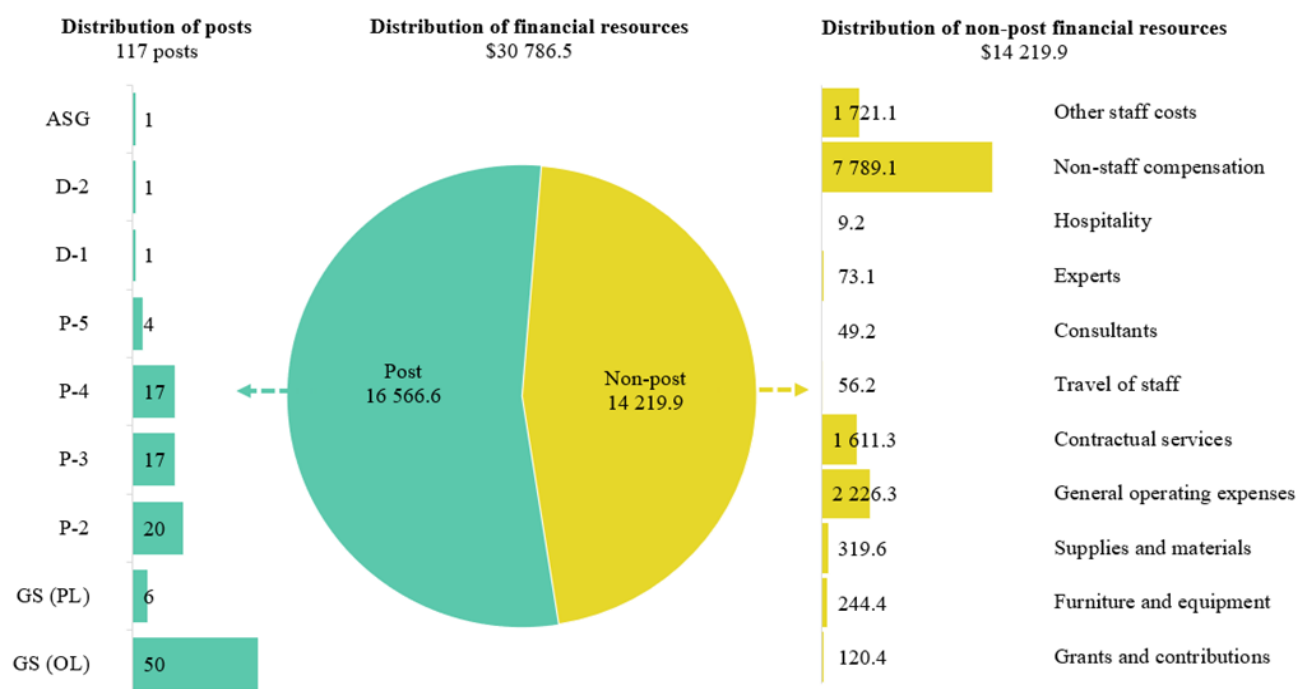
Overall: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	13 560.8	16 465.5	101.1	—	—	101.1	0.6	16 566.6
Non-post	12 181.5	14 313.3	(230.2)	—	136.8	(93.4)	0.0	14 219.9
Total	25 742.3	30 778.8	(129.1)	—	136.8	7.7	0.0	30 786.5
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		61	—	—	—	—	—	61
General Service and related		56	—	—	—	—	—	56
Total		117	—	—	—	—	—	117

Figure 7.III
Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Explanation of variances by factor and component

Overall resource changes

Technical adjustments

7.37 As reflected in table 7.7, resource changes reflect a net decrease of \$129,100 as follows:

- (a) **Members of the Court.** The decrease of \$139,300 under non-staff compensation relates to the removal of requirements for the repatriation and installation costs for five judges whose terms of office came to an end in February 2021. Every three years, one third of the Court is elected, the sitting judges being eligible for re-election;
- (b) **Registry.** The net increase of \$87,800 reflects the increase of \$101,100 under posts relating to the delayed impact of one Translator/Reviser, French (P-4) post that was established in 2021 pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/252](#), which was subject to a 50 per cent vacancy rate in accordance with the established practice for new posts. The increase was offset in part by the decrease of \$13,300 under hospitality, relating to the removal of non-recurrent resources for the organization of events for the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Court in 2021;
- (c) **Programme support.** The decrease of \$77,600 relates to the removal of non-recurrent resources totalling \$66,500, for rental of audiovisual equipment under general operating expenses, and for supplies and materials in support of the celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Court in 2021. In addition, the decrease of \$11,100 under furniture and equipment mainly reflects the removal of a one-time requirement in 2021 for the procurement of information technology equipment.

Other changes

7.38 As reflected in table 7.7, resource changes reflect a net increase of \$136,800, as follows:

(a) **Members of the Court.** The net decrease of \$108,400 relates to:

- (i) Reduced requirements of \$115,800 under non-staff compensation, mainly owing to a decrease in the resources for travel to court sessions, which corresponds to the reduced number of non-resident judges, and a decrease in resources for travel of resident judges and their dependants to their home country which reflects the change in the number of judges and their dependents entitled to such travel in 2022, and in the respective destinations;
- (ii) Increased requirements of \$7,400 under travel of staff, to support the annual visit of the President of the Court to address the General Assembly and the Security Council in New York and her annual attendance at the International Law Commission meeting in Geneva in 2022, and the travel of members of the Court to attend official meetings outside The Hague, taking into account the reduced travel resources approved for 2021 by the General Assembly.

(b) **Registry.** The net increase of \$85,000 relates to:

- (i) Increased net requirements of \$77,400 under other staff costs, relating mainly to the provisions for two general temporary assistance positions (one Senior Change and Project Management Officer (P-5) and one Contracts Management Officer (P-4)), for a period of 60 days each, to assist the Registry of the Court in the preparation of its expected temporary relocation during the renovation of the Peace Palace. The increase is partly offset by reduced requirements under temporary assistance for meetings attributed to the expected benefits associated with the implementation of a computer-assisted translation tool. Following the discovery of asbestos in the Peace Palace, the host country authorities announced that major works would be undertaken to decontaminate and renovate the building. It is expected that the Peace Palace will close temporarily during the renovation works, and that its occupants will be fully or partially relocated to other premises. In May 2020, the Court was informed by the host country that the work to renovate the Peace Palace would begin in the summer of 2022 at the earliest, and would take approximately eight years. Since the arrangements for the renovation of the Peace Palace and the relocation are yet to be determined and in light of the time needed to prepare for the relocation, it is considered premature at this stage to include specific requirements in connection with a possible move in 2022. Accordingly, the 2022 budget proposal includes requirements which are limited to the funding for one Senior Change and Project Management Officer (P-5) position and one Contracts Management Officer (P-4) position for a period of 60 days each, who would assist in the preparation phase of the expected temporary relocation.
- (ii) Increased requirements of \$33,000 to provide for a consultant with expertise in audiovisual and digital preservation to implement the digital capture and preservation programme. The archives system is crucial for information management and prevents data loss, thus ensuring the sound continuity of the Court's activities. With this project, the ongoing protection of the historical archives of the Court would be ensured, namely its case law, email records and audiovisual objects, while the Court's processes would be aligned with the information governance framework of the United Nations Secretariat and its operations would be steered towards increased automation and use of electronic resources;
- (iii) Increased requirements of \$7,800 under travel of staff, mainly to support the annual visit of the Registrar and accompanying staff to United Nations Headquarters in New York, taking into account the reduced travel resources approved for 2021 by the General Assembly;

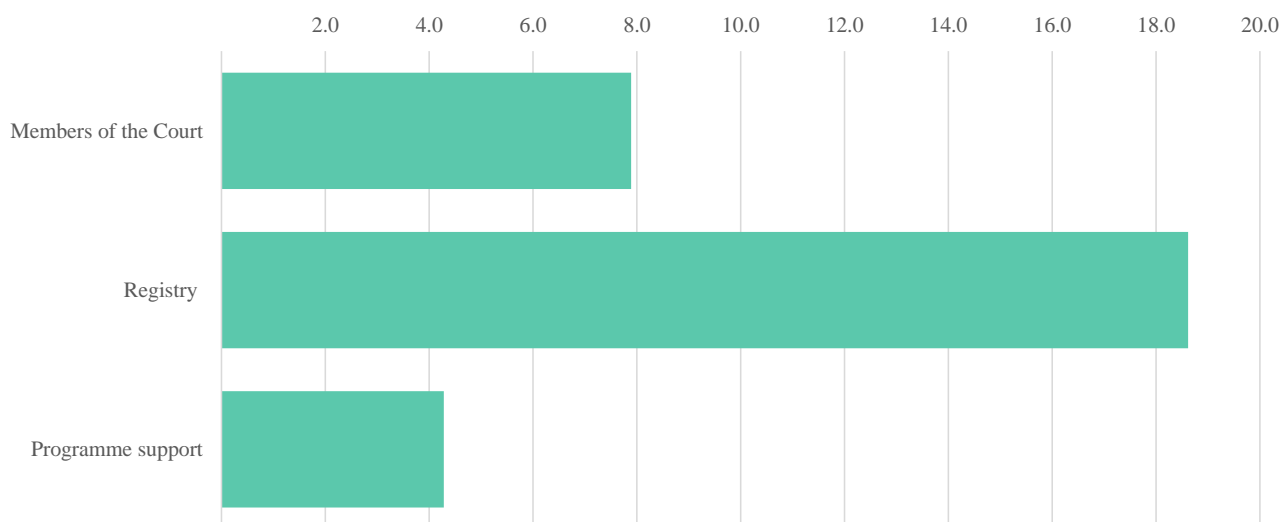
- (iv) Reduced requirements of \$33,200 under grants and contributions, which reflect the current estimated costs for services provided by the United Nations system of administration of justice in accordance with the addendum to the memorandum of understanding on the provision of services to the International Court of Justice by the United Nations Office at Geneva, the Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services and the Office of Staff Legal Assistance.
- (c) **Programme support.** The net increase of \$160,200 relates to:
- (i) Increased net requirements of \$149,000 under contractual services, in data processing services, attributable mainly to the implementation of the following two projects: a. a computer-assisted translation tool (eLUNa) to accelerate the translation of certain types of documents and enhance consistency by streamlining existing translation processes; and b. the second phase of the implementation of a content management system for the Court's website to improve its performance, increase security and leverage further development opportunities. The increase is offset in part by a decrease under contractual services for external translation, owing to the expected benefits associated with the implementation of a computer-assisted translation tool;
 - (ii) Increased requirements of \$45,600 under furniture and equipment, relating mainly to the implementation of the second phase of the replacement of obsolete audiovisual equipment in the Great Hall of Justice;
 - (iii) Increased net requirements of \$1,200 under supplies and materials, attributable mainly to the increased provision for library books and subscriptions required to maintain the comprehensive collection of public international law material of the Court. This increase is partially offset by reduced requirements under office supplies owing to the optimization of resources;
 - (iv) Reduced requirements of \$35,600 under general operating expenses, specifically for postage services owing to the use of electronic communications, and a decrease under rental and maintenance of furniture and equipment attributable to the establishment of a virtual rather than physical data centre.

7.39 The distribution of resources by component is reflected in figure 7.IV.

Figure 7.IV

Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 by component

(Millions of United States dollars)



Members of the Court

- 7.40 The International Court of Justice is composed of 15 judges (“members of the Court”), who are elected to nine-year terms of office by the General Assembly and the Security Council. Every three years, one third of the Court is elected, the sitting judges being eligible for re-election. The Court, as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, is a universal body, within which the principal legal systems of the world and the main forms of civilization have to be represented in a balanced way (Article 9 of the Statute). It is as an institution composed in this broad-based way that the Court settles legal disputes submitted to it by States and gives advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies. All the members of the Court are, in principle, required to participate in every case before it (Article 25 of the Statute). In accordance with Article 31 of the Court’s Statute, a State party to a case may choose a judge ad hoc if the Court includes upon the Bench no judge of the nationality of the parties or a judge of the nationality of another party. Judges ad hoc take part in the decisions of the Court on terms of complete equality with the members of the Court.
- 7.41 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$7,886,900 and reflect a decrease of \$247,700 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed decrease of \$247,700 is explained in paragraphs 7.37 (a) and 7.38 (a) above. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 7.10 and figure 7.V.

Table 7.10

Members of the Court: evolution of financial resources

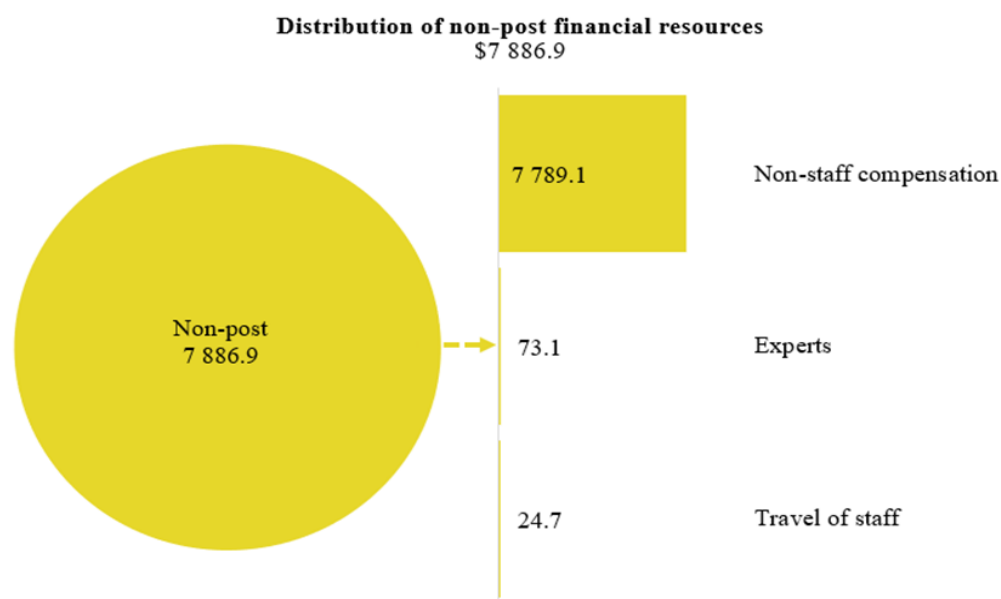
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	6 896.5	8 134.6	(139.3)	–	(108.4)	(247.7)	(3.0)	7 886.9
Total	6 896.5	8 134.6	(139.3)	–	(108.4)	(247.7)	(3.0)	7 886.9

Figure 7.V

Members of the Court: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

**Registry**

7.42 Given that the Court is both a judicial body and an international institution that is administratively independent from the Secretariat, its Registry must take on the dual role of an *auxiliaire de la justice* and an international secretariat. The Registry provides legal, diplomatic, linguistic and technical support to the Court. It is responsible for administrative, conference, computerization, archival, distribution and documentary and library services, and acts as the regular channel for communications to and from the Court.

7.43 Information on compliance with the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 7.11. The impact of COVID-19 and related restrictions on travel in 2020 limited the ability to comply with the advance booking for air travel, which resulted in a lower compliance rate of 82 percent in 2020 compared to previous years.

Table 7.11

Compliance rate

(Percentage)

	Actual 2019	Actual 2020	Planned 2021	Planned 2022
Timely submission of documentation	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	100	82	100	100

7.44 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$18,619,300 and reflect a net increase of \$172,800 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed net increase of \$172,800 is explained in paragraphs 7.37 (b) and 7.38 (b) above. Additional details are reflected in table 7.12 and figure 7.VI.

Table 7.12

Registry: evolution of financial and post resources

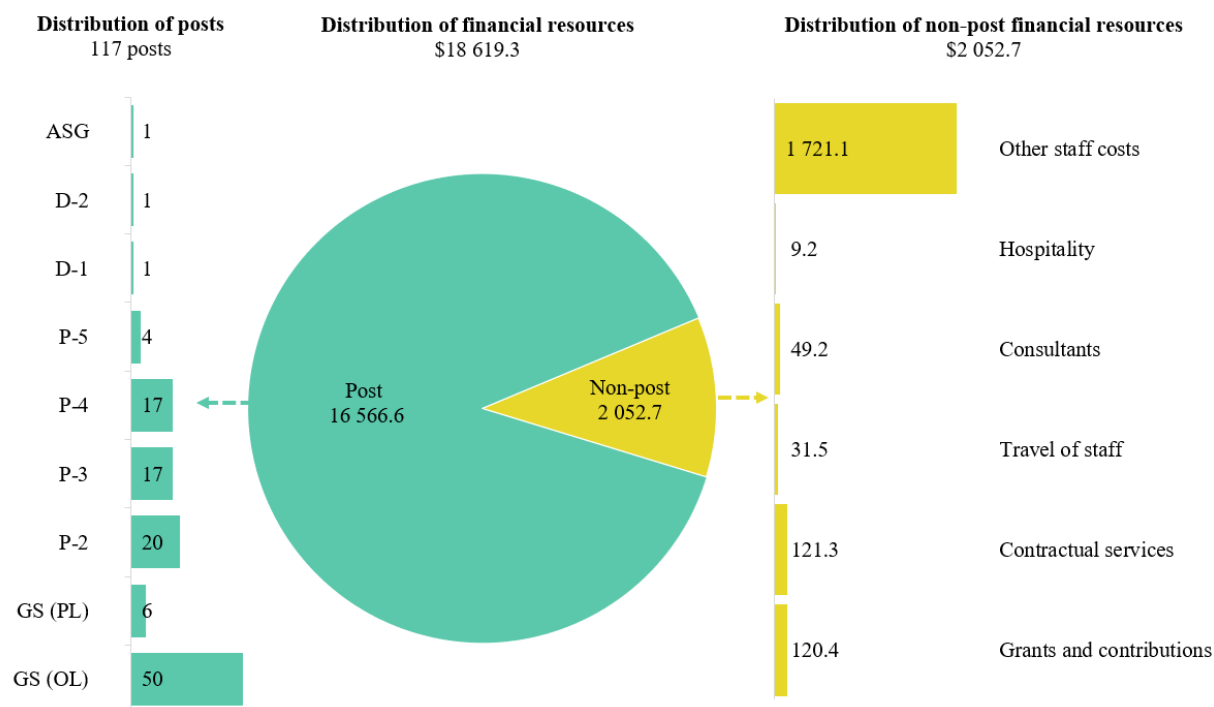
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	13 560.8	16 465.5	101.1	—	—	101.1	0.6	16 566.6
Non-post	1 409.8	1 981.0	(13.3)	—	85.0	71.7	3.6	2 052.7
Total	14 970.6	18 446.5	87.8	—	85.0	172.8	0.9	18 619.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		61	—	—	—	—	—	61
General Service and related		56	—	—	—	—	—	56
Total		117	—	—	—	—	—	117

Figure 7.VI

Registry: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Programme support

- 7.45 The provisions under programme support relate to the common service requirements of the Court and its Registry, including the contribution of the United Nations to the Carnegie Foundation for the use of the Peace Palace at The Hague.
- 7.46 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$4,280,300 and reflect a net increase of \$82,600 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed net increase of \$82,600 is explained in paragraphs 7.37 (c) and 7.38 (c) above. Additional details are reflected in table 7.13 and figure 7.VII.

Table 7.13

Programme support: evolution of financial resources

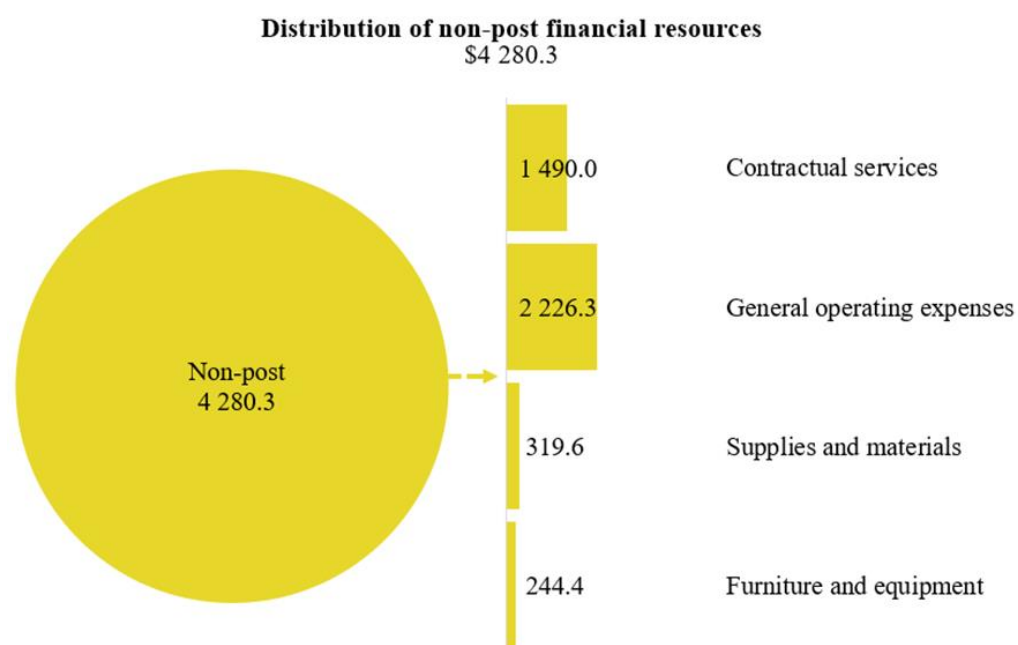
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	Changes				2022 estimate (before recosting)
				New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	3 875.2	4 197.7	(77.6)	–	160.2	82.6	2.0	4 280.3
Total	3 875.2	4 197.7	(77.6)	–	160.2	82.6	2.0	4 280.3

Figure 7.VII

Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)



Annex I

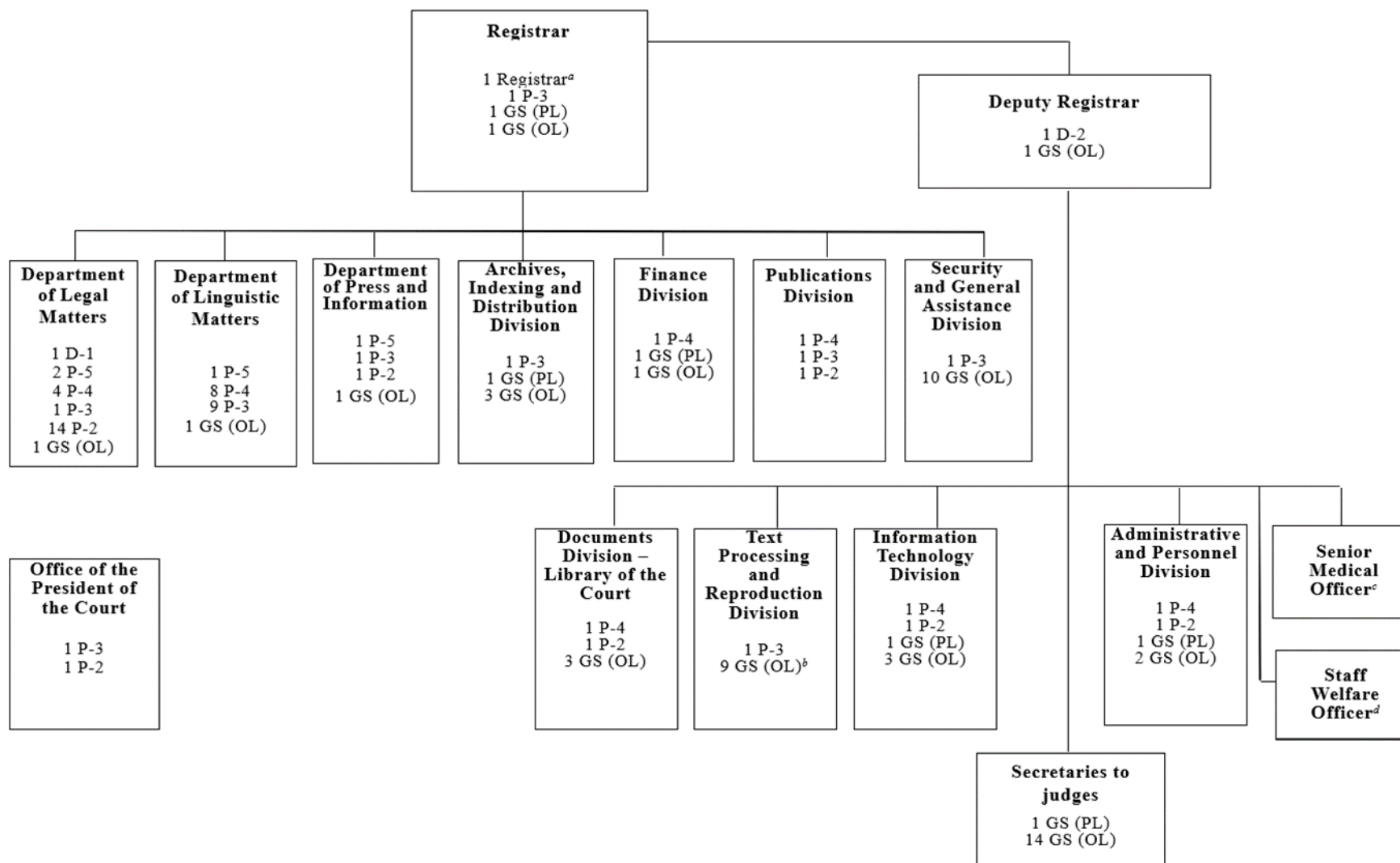
Organizational structure and post distribution for 2022

Two charts showing the organizational structure of the International Court of Justice are presented below. Chart A reproduces the approved organizational structure for 2021, as contained in document [A/75/6 \(Sect. 7\)](#). Chart B presents the proposed organizational structure for 2022.

Justification for the proposed changes

The Registry's organizational structure for 2022 reflects decisions adopted by the Court on the basis of its Statute and Rules, in July 2020 and February 2021, to review the organization of work between the Registrar and the Deputy-Registrar with a view to improving efficiency in the management and coordination of the Registry's activities. Pursuant to the revised organizational chart, the Administrative and Personnel Division, previously supervised by the Deputy-Registrar, falls under the supervision of the Registrar, while the Archives, Indexing and Distribution Division, the Publications Division and the Security and General Assistance Division – formerly supervised by the Registrar – have been placed under the responsibility of the Deputy-Registrar. These decisions were taken by the Court in the exercise of its autonomy in staff and administrative matters and have no budgetary implications. The Registry of the Court does not anticipate any further changes to its organizational structure for 2022.

A. Approved organizational structure and post distribution for 2021



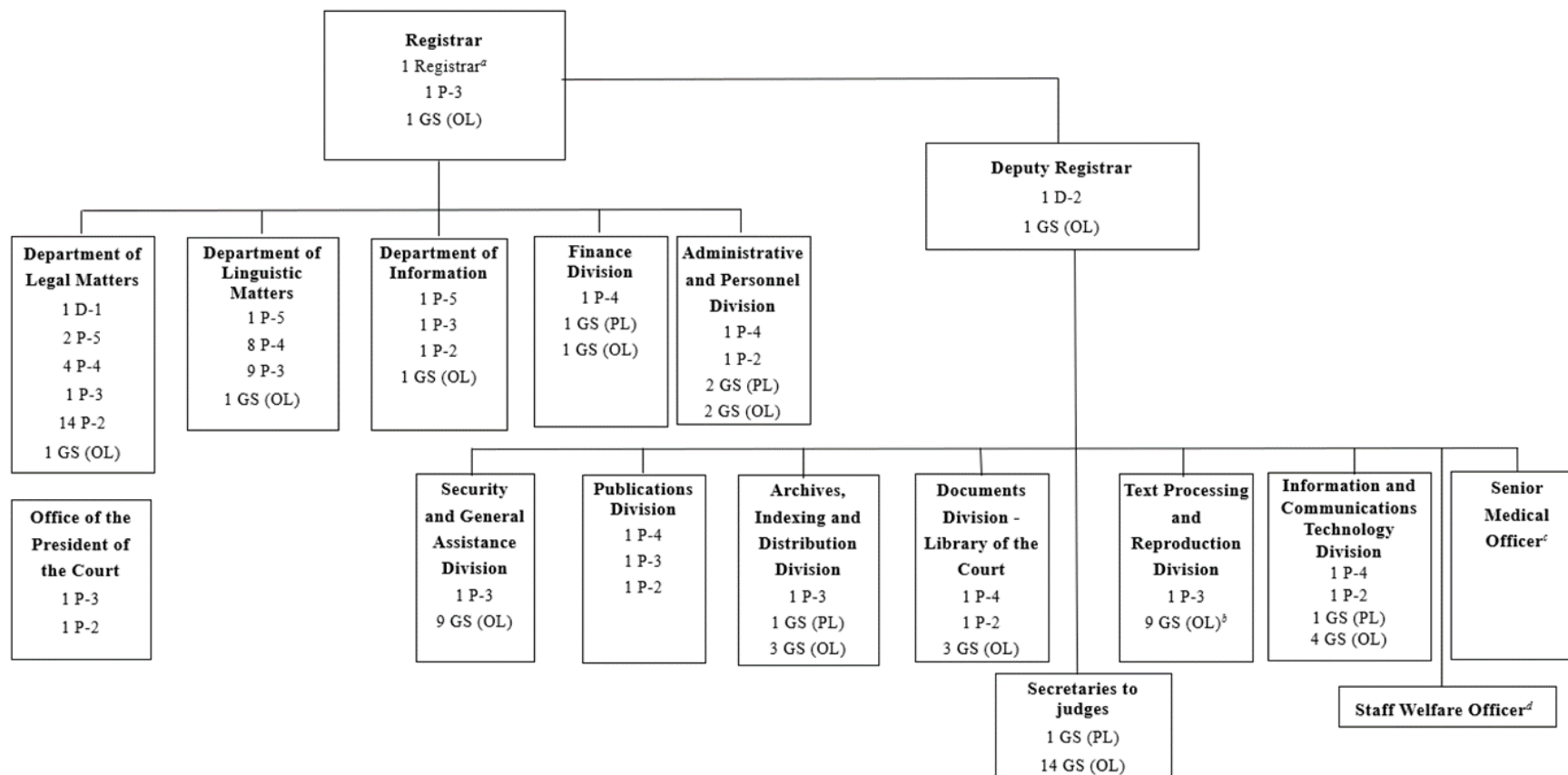
^a In accordance with Articles 21 and 32 of the Statute of the Court, the Registrar is appointed by the Court and his salary is fixed by the General Assembly upon the proposal of the Court. The Registrar is budgeted at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

^b In addition, the Division will have two general temporary assistance positions to support the work of the office.

^c One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-5).

^d One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-3).

B. Proposed organizational structure and post distribution for 2022



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

^a In accordance with Articles 21 and 32 of the Statute of the Court, the Registrar is appointed by the Court and his salary is fixed by the General Assembly upon the proposal of the Court. The Registrar is budgeted at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

^b In addition, the Division will have two temporary assistance positions to support the work of the office.

^c One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-5).

^d One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-3).

Annex II

Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies

*Brief description of the recommendation**Action taken to implement the recommendation*

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/75/7)

The Advisory Committee recalls that the General Assembly, in its resolution [72/261](#), authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not to exceed \$1 million for the implementation of an enterprise resource planning system for the Court during the biennium 2018–2019. In the context of its previous report, the Committee was informed that the Court had taken the decision to adopt Umoja, the United Nations enterprise resource planning system, in October 2017 and that the system was scheduled to be implemented in the Court as of October 2019. The Committee was further informed that the proposed budget for 2020 included requirements totalling \$142,300 to cover Umoja-related costs. **The Advisory Committee reiterates its expectation that every effort will be made to ensure the smooth implementation of Umoja in a timely manner with the full realization of the system's benefits (see also [A/74/7](#), paras. III.9 and III.10) (para. III.13).**

In November 2020, on the basis of a report prepared by the Registrar concerning certain outstanding technical issues relating to the implementation of Umoja, the Court approved the continuation of the deployment of Umoja at the Court. On 23 December 2020, the Registrar wrote to the Controller to inform him of the Court's decision. Since then, the Registry of the Court has been in contact with the Enterprise Resource Planning Solution Division at the United Nations Secretariat to resume roll-out efforts and consider options for the inclusion of the Court in the Secretariat's existing plan of action.