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Agenda items 138 and 74 (b)

Proposed programme budget for 2022

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

# Countering disinformation for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/76/L.7/Rev.1

Thirty-fourth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2022

#### I. Introduction

- 1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/76/15), in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/76/L.7/Rev.1 on countering disinformation for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms. During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee was provided with additional information and clarification, concluding with written responses received on 10 December 2021.
- 2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 16 and 18 of draft resolution A/C.3/76/L.7/Rev.1, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to:
- (a) Seek the views of States, United Nations entities and relevant stakeholders and to submit to the Assembly at its seventy-seventh session a report, within existing resources, based on information and best practices shared by States, United Nations entities and relevant stakeholders on countering disinformation;
- (b) Take the steps necessary to effectively coordinate and follow up on the implementation of the resolution and, in this regard, consider briefing the Assembly on its implementation, as appropriate.





3. In his statement, the Secretary-General provides information on: (a) the relationship between the proposed request and the programme budget for 2022 (A/C.5/76/15, para. 3); (b) the activities by which the proposed request would be implemented (ibid., paras. 4–6); (c) the budgetary implications of the proposal (ibid., paras. 7–9); and (d) the potential for absorption during 2022 (ibid., paras. 11–12).

## II. Resource requirements

- 4. For 2022, the submission of the report would entail additional resource requirements totalling \$27,100 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for documentation, and \$62,700 under section 24, Human rights, for general temporary assistance.
- 5. With respect to the requirement for general temporary assistance, the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the subject matter dealt with by the draft resolution constituted a rapidly evolving topic with many facets, around which multiple and diverse initiatives were under way, and that additional specialized capacity, unavailable within the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, would be required in order to research and draft the report.

#### III. Conclusion

- 6. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are contained in paragraphs 13 to 15 of the statement (A/C.5/76/15). The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should the Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/76/L.7/Rev.1, additional resource requirements in the amount of \$89,800 would arise under the following sections of the proposed programme budget for 2022:
- (a) Additional resource requirements in the amount of \$27,100 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management;
- (b) Additional resource requirements in the amount of \$62,700 under section 24, Human rights.
- 7. The amount of \$89,800 would require an additional appropriation for 2022 to be approved by the General Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.
- 8. Additional resource requirements in the amount of \$10,800 would arise under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2022 and would require additional appropriation by the General Assembly, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

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