



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-seventh session

Items 139 and 140 of the preliminary list\*

## Proposed programme budget for 2023

### Programme planning

## Proposed programme budget for 2023

### Part III

### International justice and law

### Section 7

### International Court of Justice

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\* [A/77/50](#).

\*\* The part consisting of the proposed programme plan for 2023 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.



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## 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.

More than seventy-five years after its inaugural sitting, the Court remains as busy as ever, with 15 contentious cases pending on its docket as at 1 March 2022 – 4 of which were introduced in the previous 12 months. As in recent years, the Court maintains a high level of judicial activity and is able to consider several cases simultaneously. At the same time, the Court is continuing to adapt its working methods in response to the challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, allowing it to hold hybrid hearings in five cases and to deliver three judgments and two orders on requests for the indication of provisional measures in 2021.

Mindful of the crucial role of modern technology in the discharge of its judicial tasks, the Court has focused its budgetary proposals for 2023 on the financial resources that are essential for the fulfilment of its mandate, with a particular emphasis on the maintenance and development of its information and communications technology infrastructure.

(Signed) Philippe **Gautier**  
Registrar

## A. Proposed programme plan for 2023 and programme performance in 2021

### 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 73 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/76/4](#). 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 the latter 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 2023 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 2023 against the background of its 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. When a case is pending before the Court, it is not possible to anticipate whether and when recourse will be made to incidental proceedings (e.g. requests for provisional measures). 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 high. In principle, the parties 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. 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 which may assist in preventing 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. Pursuant to Article 21, paragraph 2, of the Statute and articles 22 and 23 of the Rules of the Court, respectively, the Registrar and Deputy-Registrar are elected by the Court for a term of seven years each and may be re-elected. 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 and external factors for 2023**

- 7.7 To contribute to the objective, the Registry will:
- (a) Continue to respond to the needs of the Court in carrying out its judicial activities;
  - (b) 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;
  - (c) To ensure the development of capacities of the Court in the area of information and communications technology in order to support the organization of the meetings and public sittings of the Court.
- 7.8 Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the needs and requests of Member States, the proposed programme plan for 2023 continues to incorporate the lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to, and adaptation of the programme owing to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Examples of lessons learned and best practices include the maintenance and improvement of measures taken to adapt the Court's working methods to the need to work remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through a robust technology infrastructure, the Court will continue to be able to hold all of its planned public sittings, deliberations and other private meetings. At the same time, it is assumed that those operational conditions have improved and allow for mandate implementation through formerly established approaches. Any modifications to planned deliverables would be in pursuance of the objective, strategy and mandates and would be reported as part of the programme performance information.
- 7.9 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in the needs of the Court being met in an effective and efficient manner in 2023.
- 7.10 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2023 is based on the planning assumption that the Court's judicial activities in 2023 will involve a similar level of work as in 2022.

- 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 2023.

## Programme performance in 2021

### Continued functioning of the Court through hybrid hearings

- 7.12 During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Court adapted to the need to work remotely in order to continue to perform its judicial functions. With the use of upgraded videoconference technology and drawing on the experience gained in 2020, the Registry was able to improve and refine the support provided to the Court in organizing planned hearings in a hybrid format. In that context, the Registry provided members of the Court and parties participating in hybrid hearings with technical support in the area of information and communications technology to ensure the smooth conduct of the proceedings in the Court's two official languages, involving participants joining from different locations around the world. At the same time, the Registry also made arrangements for virtual simultaneous interpretation and the electronic distribution of documents in preparation for the hearings. Owing to those arrangements, which entailed additional time and financial resources, the Court was able to conduct its planned judicial activities.
- 7.13 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 7.1).

Table 7.1  
Performance measure

2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)
Members of the Court and parties to pending cases received timely assistance by the Registry	Members of the Court and parties to pending cases received timely assistance by the Registry (including with respect to hybrid hearings in 3 cases)	Members of the Court and parties to pending cases received timely assistance by the Registry (including with respect to hybrid hearings in 5 cases)

### Impact of the pandemic

- 7.14 The continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic into 2021 had an impact on the implementation of mandates, in particular the Court's ability to conduct its judicial activities in person in The Hague. The adaptation of the Court's working methods, and in particular the amendment of its Rules to allow for hearings and readings of the Court's judgments to take place by video link in certain circumstances, have, however, enabled the Court to hold all five sets of hearings it had planned for 2021, all of which were held in a hybrid format, with some members of the Court and members of the parties' respective delegations physically present in the Great Hall of Justice and others following the proceedings via video link. In addition, through the increased use of technology, the Court was able to hold its internal meetings on budgetary, administrative and judicial matters and to pursue the consideration of cases pending on its docket, allowing it to render judgments in three cases in 2021.

## Planned results for 2023

### Result 1: meeting the Court's sustained workload

#### Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023

- 7.15 In 2021, the Court delivered three judgments in contentious proceedings, two orders on requests for the indication of provisional measures and eight other orders directing the proceedings in the cases before it. During the same period, the Court held public hearings on the merits or on incidental proceedings in five contentious cases and was also seized of three new contentious cases. As at 31 December 2021, there were 15 contentious cases pending before the Court.

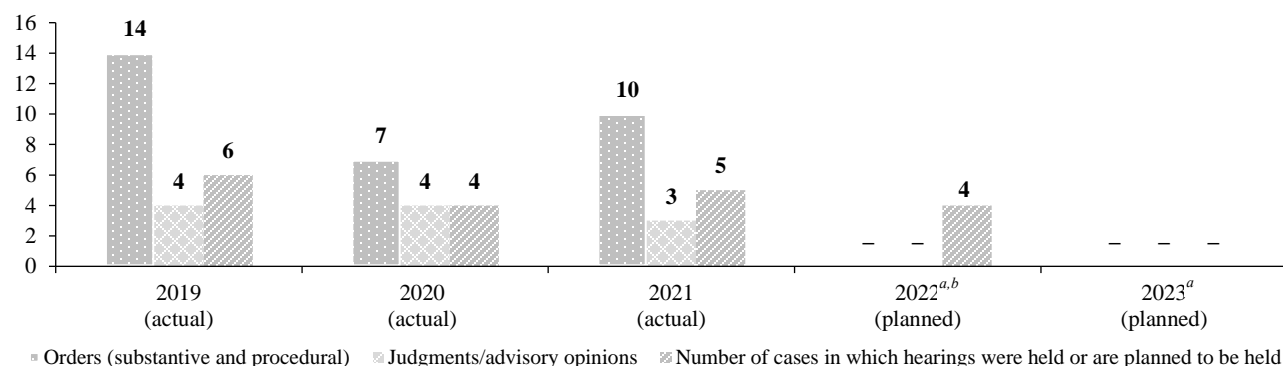
7.16 The work of the Registry contributed to the conduct of the Court's judicial work in those proceedings, which met the planned target.

7.17 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 7.I).

Figure 7.I

**Performance measure: 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)



<sup>a</sup> The number of cases in which hearings will be held and the number of decisions that will be rendered are unforeseeable for 2022 and 2023.

<sup>b</sup> For 2022, the Court has set tentative dates for hearings in four cases.

**Result 2: improved outreach to promote awareness and understanding of the Court's role as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations**

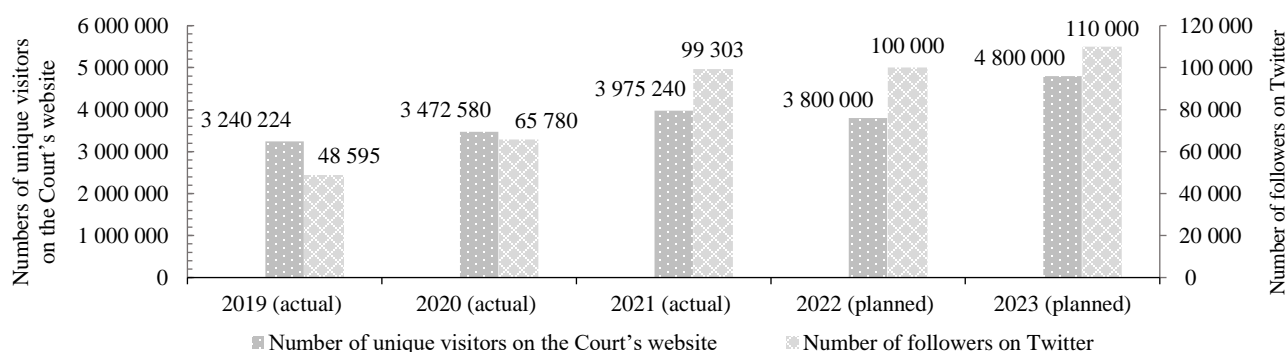
**Programme performance in 2021 and target for 2023**

7.18 The work of the Registry contributed to improved awareness and understanding of the Court's role as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations by further developing and strengthening the Court's social media profile, as well as by enriching and refining the content, appeal and usability of its website, as demonstrated by 3.98 million unique website visitors and 99,303 followers on Twitter, which exceeded the planned target of 3.65 million unique visitors and 85,000 Twitter followers.

7.19 Progress towards the objective and target for 2023 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 7.II).

Figure 7.II

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



### Result 3: Improved understanding and awareness of the Court's proceedings among the diplomatic and legal community

#### Proposed programme plan for 2023

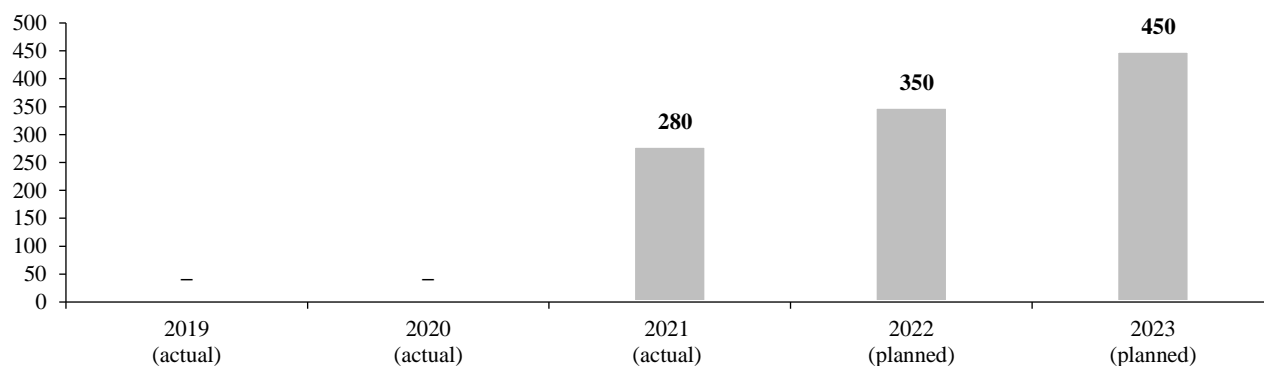
- 7.20 The Registry conducts outreach activities aimed at enhancing and improving the understanding and awareness of the Court's proceedings by States that may appear before it. These activities take several forms, including presentations, workshops, briefings and conferences and the publication of information material aimed at the main target audience of the Registry, namely States (through contacts with the diplomatic community and representatives of States appearing before the Court in proceedings) and the legal community (lawyers appearing before the Court, legal advisers at embassies, lawyers' associations and members of academia).

#### *Lessons learned and planned change*

- 7.21 The lesson for the Registry was that, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, some of its outreach activities could be successfully conducted in a hybrid or virtual format, enabling the Registry to reach a broader audience. In applying the lesson, the Registry will organize and promote outreach activities for the benefit of the above-mentioned target audience through an increased use of information and communications technology.
- 7.22 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 7.III).

Figure 7.III

**Performance measure: number of stakeholders in the diplomatic and legal community with improved understanding and awareness of the Court's proceedings (annual)**



### Legislative mandates

- 7.23 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

- 7.24 Table 7.2 lists all deliverables of the Registry.



Table 7.2

**Registry: deliverables for the period 2021–2023, by category and subcategory**

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2021 actual</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>
<b>A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies</b>				
<b>Parliamentary documentation</b> (number of documents)	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
1. Annual report of the Court to the General Assembly	1	1	1	1
<b>Judicial documentation</b> (number of judgements, advisory opinions and orders)	<b>Unforeseeable<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Unforeseeable<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Unforeseeable<sup>a</sup></b>
2. Judgments, advisory opinions and orders	Unforeseeable <sup>a</sup>	13	Unforeseeable <sup>a</sup>	Unforeseeable <sup>a</sup>
<b>Substantive services for judicial proceedings</b> (number of documents)	<b>1 685</b>	<b>1 439</b>	<b>1 685</b>	<b>1 585</b>
3. Preparation of documents (minutes of private meetings of the Court, case-related letters and distributions prepared, memorandums, speeches, etc.)	1 685	1 439	1 685	1 585
<b>Conference and secretariat services for judicial proceedings</b> (number of three-hour sittings)	<b>149</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>149</b>
4. Interpretation at private meetings and public hearings of the Court	149	154	149	149
<b>Substantive services for meetings</b> (number of three-hour meetings)	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
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
<b>Documentation services for judicial proceedings</b> (thousands of words)	<b>27 660</b>	<b>29 211</b>	<b>27 660</b>	<b>27 800</b>
7. Translation of documents related to the Court's judicial activities	7 660	8 051	7 660	7 800
8. Processing (editing and proofreading) of documents related to the Court's judicial activities	20 000	21 160	20 000	20 000
<b>B. Generation and transfer of knowledge</b>				
<b>Seminars, workshops and training events</b> (number of days)	<b>–</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>
9. Presentations, briefings, workshops and conferences on proceedings of the Court for the diplomatic and legal community	–	3	4	6
<b>Publications of the Court</b> (number of publications)	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>25</b>
10. Applications/special agreements (including annexes)	Unforeseeable <sup>a</sup>	1	Unforeseeable <sup>a</sup>	Unforeseeable <sup>a</sup>
11. <i>ICJ Reports</i> : bound volumes of judgments, advisory opinions and orders of the Court	2	1	2	2
12. Relevant chapter in <i>Yearbook of the United Nations</i>	1	1	1	1
13. Pleadings series volumes	20 <sup>b</sup>	3 <sup>c</sup>	20 <sup>b</sup>	19 <sup>c</sup>
14. <i>International Court of Justice Annuaire/Yearbook</i>	1	1	1	1
15. Other publications of the Court (non-recurrent, reprints, publications for special occasions (illustrated books, handbooks, etc.))	4	16	2	2
<b>D. Communication deliverables</b>				
<b>Outreach programmes, special events and information materials</b> : exhibits, lectures and presentations for legal and academic visitors, the diplomatic community, students and journalists; and distribution of leaflets, fact sheets and flyers on the Court.				
<b>External and media relations</b> : press releases and summaries of decisions.				
<b>Digital platforms and multimedia content</b> : website and social media platforms of the Court.				

<sup>a</sup> 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.

<sup>b</sup> The planned figures for 2021 and 2022 were based on the number of volumes of written pleadings received from States involved in proceedings before the Court. The approach for 2021 actual and 2023 planned has been changed whereby the figures reflect the number of volumes printed and issued by the Court in the pleadings series.

<sup>c</sup> Includes the annexes to the pleadings, which are contained in CD-ROMs accompanying the hard copy volumes. These annexes are accounted for at a rate of 1,000 pages per volume.

## B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2023

### Overview

- 7.25 The proposed regular budget resources for 2023, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 7.3 to 7.5.

Table 7.3

#### Overall: evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes					2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post	14 427.1	14 697.2	—	—	79.8	79.8	0.5	14 777.0
Other staff costs	1 516.3	1 645.4	—	—	—	—	—	1 645.4
Non-staff compensation	7 023.1	7 700.3	—	—	(204.7)	(204.7)	(2.7)	7 495.6
Hospitality	12.6	8.8	—	—	—	—	—	8.8
Consultants	—	42.4	—	—	—	—	—	42.4
Experts	55.7	69.9	—	—	—	—	—	69.9
Travel of staff	20.6	56.6	—	—	4.2	4.2	7.4	60.8
Contractual services	1 473.4	1 540.6	—	—	40.0	40.0	2.6	1 580.6
General operating expenses	2 468.5	2 201.1	—	—	(5.5)	(5.5)	(0.2)	2 195.6
Supplies and materials	286.9	261.3	—	—	31.8	31.8	12.2	293.1
Furniture and equipment	209.2	210.4	(113.0)	—	76.2	(36.8)	(17.5)	173.6
Grants and contributions	133.0	115.1	—	—	5.3	5.3	4.6	120.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>27 626.5</b>	<b>28 549.1</b>	<b>(113.0)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>(85.9)</b>	<b>(0.3)</b>	<b>28 463.2</b>

Table 7.4

#### Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2023

(Number of posts)

	Number	Details
Approved 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)
Establishment	1	1 P-3 under Registry
Proposed for 2023	118	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 1 D-1, 4 P-5, 17 P-4, 18 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 (PL), General Service (Principal level); GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

Table 7.5

**Overall: proposed posts by category and grade**

(Number of posts)

Category and grade	Changes					2023 proposed
	2022 approved	Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
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	—	—	1	1	18
P-2/1	20	—	—	—	—	20
Subtotal	61	—	—	1	1	62
General Service and related						
GS (PL)	6	—	—	—	—	6
GS (OL)	50	—	—	—	—	50
Subtotal	56	—	—	—	—	56
Total	117	—	—	1	1	118

7.26 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2023 are reflected in tables 7.6 to 7.8 and figure 7.IV.

7.27 As reflected in tables 7.6 and 7.7, the overall resources proposed for 2023 amount to \$28,463,200 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of \$85,900 (or 0.3 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2022. 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 7.6

**Overall: evolution of financial resources by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

*Regular budget*

Component	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes				2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total Percentage	
Members of the Court	7 086.5	7 795.1	—	—	(203.0)	(203.0) (2.6)	7 592.1
Registry	16 186.5	16 656.6	—	—	98.6	98.6 0.6	16 755.2
Programme support	4 353.4	4 097.4	(113.0)	—	131.5	18.5 0.5	4 115.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>27 626.5</b>	<b>28 549.1</b>	<b>(113.0)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>27.1</b>	<b>(85.9) (0.3)</b>	<b>28 463.2</b>

Table 7.7

**Overall: proposed posts for 2023 by component**

(Number of posts)

*Regular budget*

Component	2022 approved	Changes				2023 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Members of the Court	—	—	—	—	—	—
Registry	117	—	—	1	1	118
Programme support	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>118</b>

Table 7.8

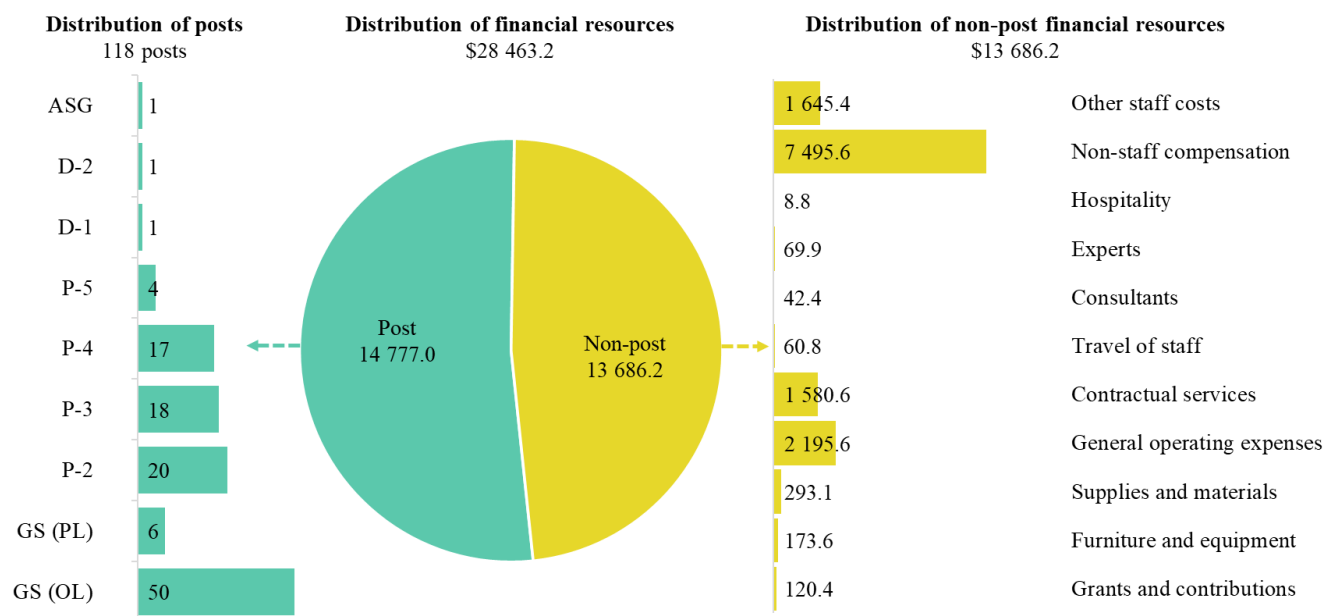
**Overall: evolution of financial and post resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes					2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	14 427.1	14 697.2	—	—	79.8	79.8	0.5	14 777.0
Non-post	13 199.4	13 851.9	(113.0)	—	(52.7)	(165.7)	(1.2)	13 686.2
Total	27 626.5	28 549.1	(113.0)	—	27.1	(85.9)	(0.3)	28 463.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		61	—	—	1	1	1.6	62
General Service and related		56	—	—	—	—	—	56
Total		117	—	—	1	1	0.9	118

Figure 7.IV  
**Distribution of proposed resources for 2023 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



## Explanation of variances by factor and component

### Overall resource changes

#### Technical adjustments

7.28 As reflected in table 7.6, resource changes reflect a decrease of \$113,000, as follows:

**Programme support.** The decrease of \$113,000 relates to the removal of non-recurrent provisions for the purchase of conference servicing and reproduction equipment relating to the implementation of the second phase of the replacement of obsolete audiovisual equipment in the Great Hall of Justice.

#### Other changes

7.29 As reflected in table 7.6, resource changes reflect a net increase of \$27,100, as follows:

(a) **Members of the Court.** The net decrease of \$203,000 reflects:

- (i) A net decrease of \$204,700 under non-staff compensation, due to lower pension estimates attributable to changes in the composition of the group of retired judges and spouses entitled to a pension and a lower number of children of judges entitled to the education grant (\$262,900). The decrease is partially offset by an increase in the requirements for travel of non-resident judges to Court sessions and of resident judges and their dependents to their home country (\$58,200);
- (ii) An increase of \$1,700 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 and to support the travel of members of the Court to attend official meetings outside The Hague;

- (b) **Registry.** The increase of \$98,600 reflects:
- (i) An increase of \$79,800 for the proposed establishment of one post (P-3) in the Information and Communications Technology Division (see annex III);
  - (ii) An increase of \$2,500 under travel of staff, mainly to support the travel of the Registrar and Registry officials to United Nations Headquarters in New York, and to Geneva to represent the Court in hearings before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal and/or the United Nations Appeals Tribunal in cases in which the Court may be involved;
  - (iii) An increase of \$11,000 under contractual services, due mainly to higher anticipated requirements for the language training programme to enhance staff capacities to work in the two official languages of the Court;
  - (iv) An increase of \$5,300 under grants and contributions, due to the anticipated higher requirements for services provided by the United Nations system of administration of justice in accordance with the memorandum of understanding with 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 \$131,500 reflects:
- (i) An increase of \$29,000 under contractual services, to take into account higher anticipated requirements for the reduction of the backlog of volumes published in the Pleadings series;
  - (ii) A decrease of \$5,500 under general operating expenses, due to an anticipated reduction in requirements for communications as a result of an increased use of the Court's unified communications platform (Skype for Business and Microsoft Teams) and the replacement of services provided by a private company with services provided by the United Nations Global Service Centre integrated wide area network connection to the United Nations Secretariat;
  - (iii) An increase of \$31,800 under supplies and materials, due to higher anticipated requirements for library books and subscriptions required to maintain the comprehensive collection of public international law material of the Court;
  - (iv) An increase of \$76,200 under furniture and equipment to take into account the higher anticipated requirements for the replacement of obsolete equipment, including printers, laptop computers, network switches, hard disks, blade servers and a digital audio recording appliance, in line with the Court's replacement plan.

## Members of the Court

- 7.30 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.
- 7.31 The proposed regular budget resources for 2023 amount to \$7,592,100 and reflect a decrease of \$203,000 compared with the appropriation for 2022. The proposed decrease is explained in paragraph 7.29 (a). Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2023 are reflected in table 7.9 and figure 7.V.

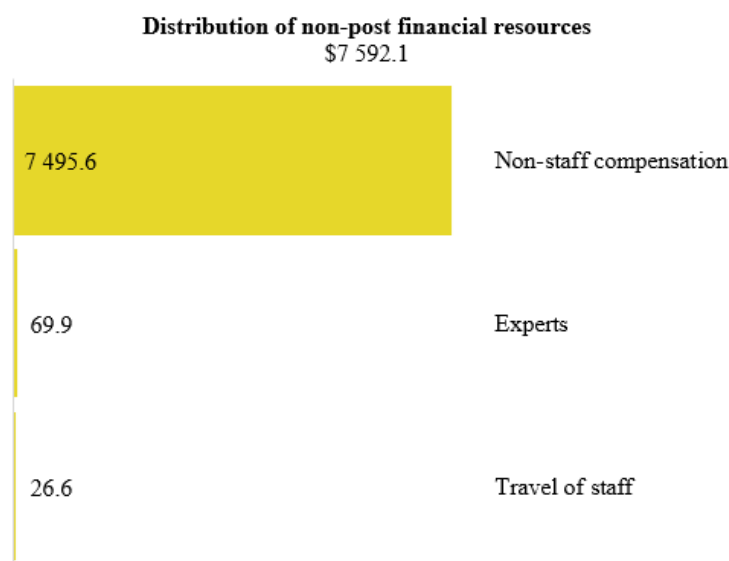
Table 7.9  
**Members of the Court: evolution of financial resources**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes					2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	7 086.5	7 795.1	–	–	(203.0)	(203.0)	(2.6)	7 592.1
Total	7 086.5	7 795.1	–	–	(203.0)	(203.0)	(2.6)	7 592.1

Figure 7.V  
**Members of the Court: distribution of proposed resources for 2023 (before recosting)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)



## Registry

- 7.32 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.
- 7.33 Information on compliance with the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 7.10. The impact of COVID-19 and related restrictions on travel in 2021 limited the ability to comply with the advance booking for air travel, which resulted in a compliance rate of 86 percent in 2021.

Table 7.10  
**Compliance rate**  
(Percentage)

	<i>Actual 2019</i>	<i>Actual 2020</i>	<i>Actual 2021</i>	<i>Planned 2022</i>	<i>Planned 2023</i>
Timely submission of documentation	100	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	100	82	86	100	100

7.34 The proposed regular budget resources for 2023 amount to \$16,755,200 and reflect an increase of \$98,600 compared with the appropriation for 2022. The proposed increase is explained in paragraph 7.29 (b). Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2023 are reflected in table 7.11 and figure 7.VI.

Table 7.11  
**Registry: evolution of financial and post resources**  
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

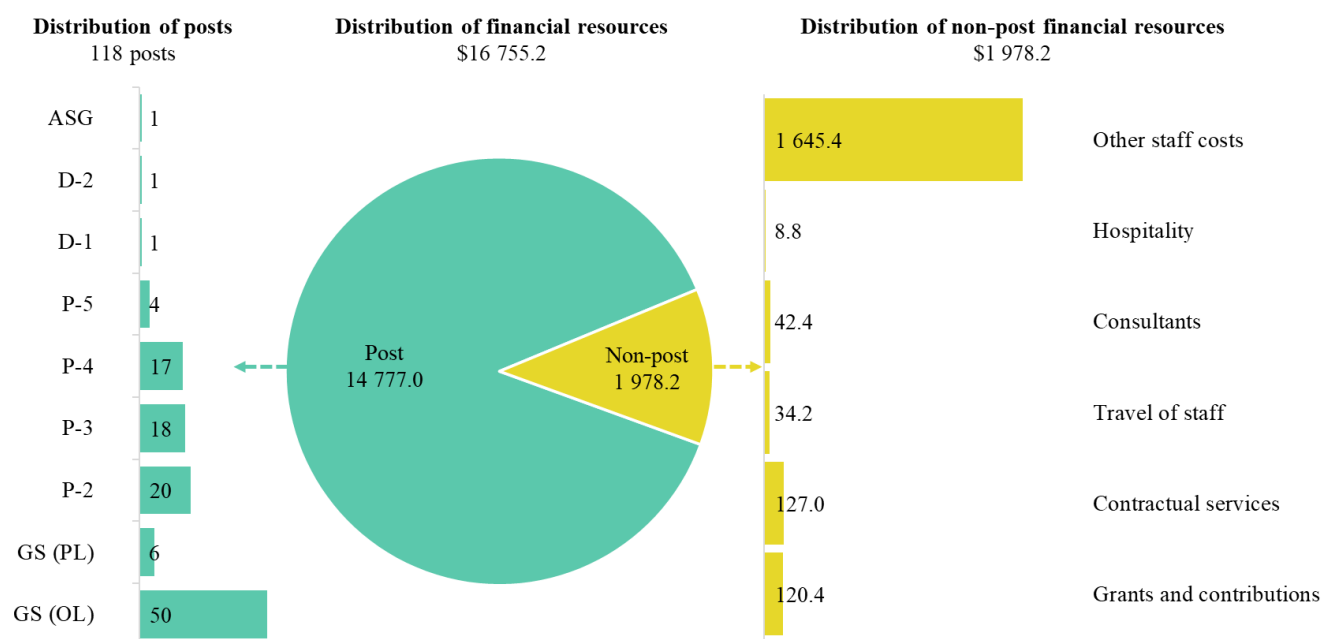
	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes					2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	14 427.1	14 697.2	—	—	79.8	79.8	0.5	14 777.0
Non-post	1 759.4	1 959.4	—	—	18.8	18.8	1.0	1 978.2
Total	16 186.5	16 656.6	—	—	98.6	98.6	0.6	16 755.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		61	—	—	1	1	1.6	62
General Service and related		56	—	—	—	—	—	56
Total		117	—	—	1	1	0.9	118



Figure 7.VI

**Registry: distribution of proposed resources for 2023 (before recosting)**

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

**Programme support**

- 7.35 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.
- 7.36 The proposed regular budget resources for 2023 amount to \$4,115,900 and reflect a net increase of \$18,500 compared with the appropriation for 2022. The proposed net increase is explained in paragraphs 7.28 and 7.29 (c). Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2023 are reflected in table 7.12 and figure 7.VII.

Table 7.12

**Programme support: evolution of financial resources**

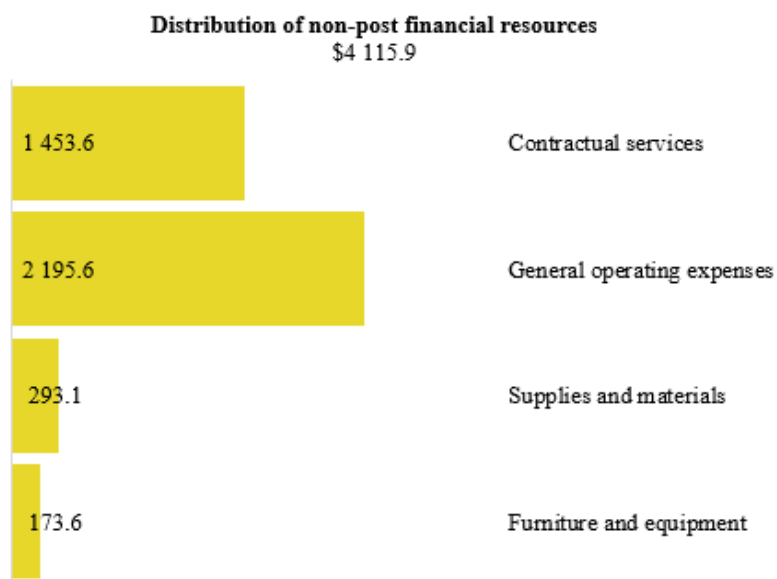
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2021 expenditure	2022 appropriation	Changes				2023 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage
<b>Financial resources by main category of expenditure</b>							
Non-post	4 353.4	4 097.4	(113.0)	–	131.5	18.5	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 353.4</b>	<b>4 097.4</b>	<b>(113.0)</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>131.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>0.5</b>

Figure 7.VII

**Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2023 (before recosting)**

(Thousands of United States dollars)



## Annex I

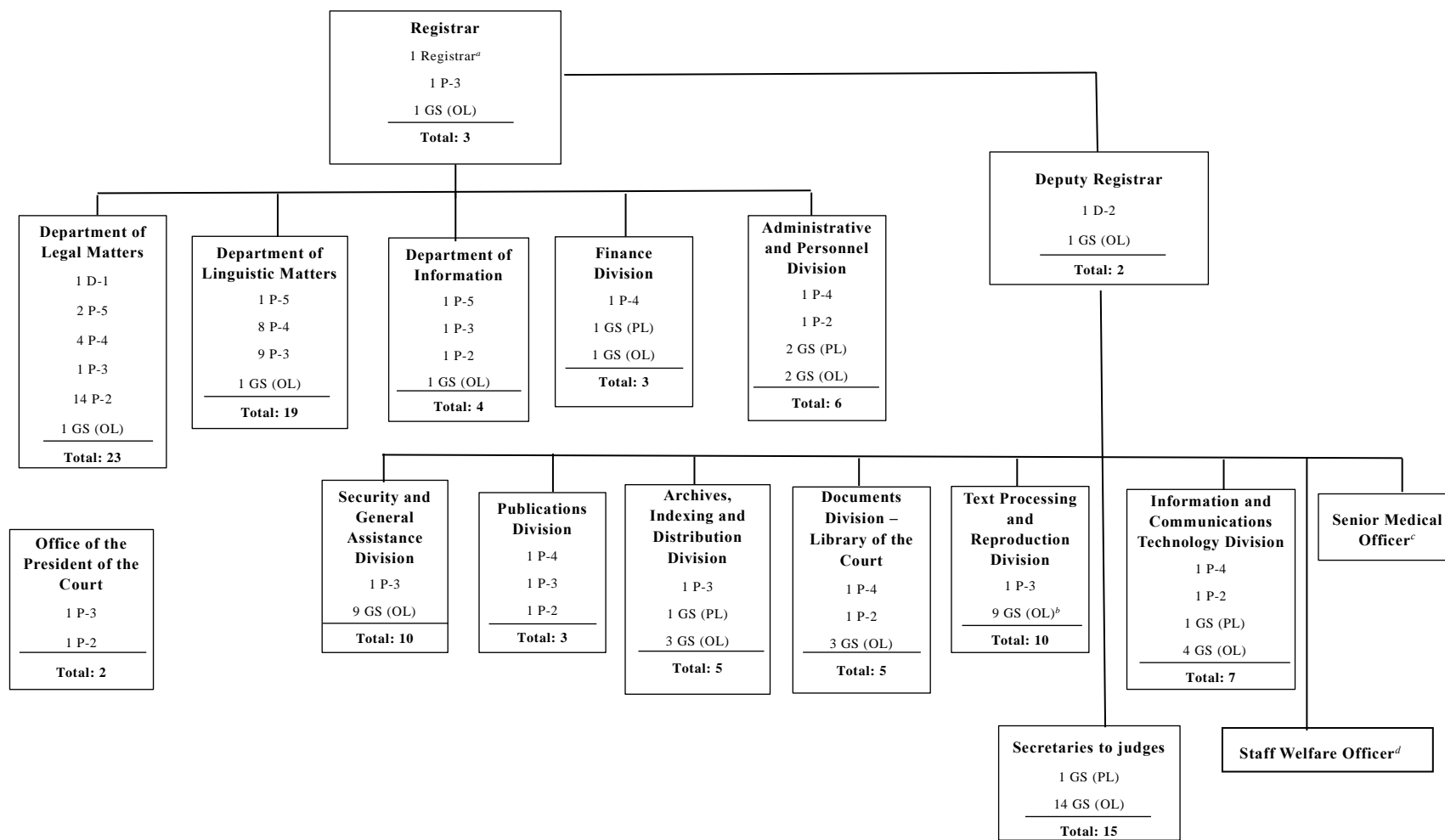
### **Organizational structure and post distribution for 2023**

Two charts showing the organizational structure of the International Court of Justice are presented below. Chart A reproduces the approved organizational structure for 2022, as contained in document [A/76/6 \(Sect. 7\)](#). Chart B presents the proposed organizational structure for 2023.

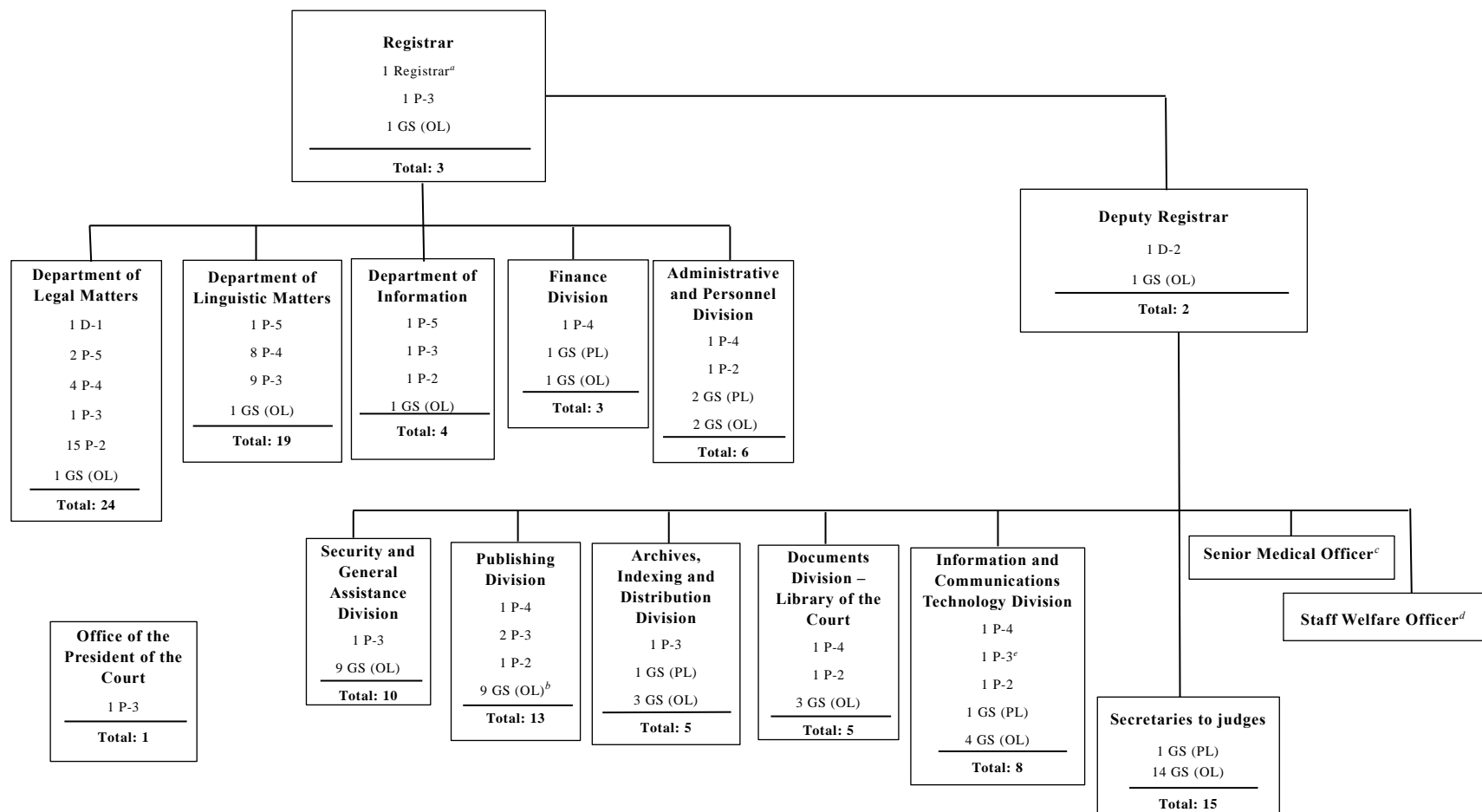
#### **Justification for the proposed changes**

In July 2021, the Court decided to merge the Publications Division and the Text Processing and Reproduction Division and establish a new Publishing Division, in order to increase effectiveness in the production and publication of the Court's documents and improve the flow of information. That decision was adopted by the Court on the basis of its Statute and Rules and in the exercise of its autonomy in staff and administrative matters and has no budgetary implications.

## A. Approved organizational structure and post distribution for 2022



## B. Proposed organizational structure and post distribution for 2023



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

<sup>a</sup> In accordance with Articles 21 and 32 of the Statute of the Court, the Registrar is appointed by the Court. The Registrar's salary is fixed by the General Assembly upon the proposal of the Court, and the post is budgeted at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

<sup>b</sup> In addition, the Division will have two temporary assistance positions to support its work.

<sup>c</sup> One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-5).

<sup>d</sup> One 25 per cent part-time general temporary assistance position (P-3).

<sup>e</sup> Establishment of one post of Information Systems Officer (Cybersecurity) (P-3).

## Annex II

### Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of advisory and oversight bodies

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

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#### **Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

##### **[A/76/7](#) and [A/76/7/Corr.1](#)**

The Advisory Committee reiterates again 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/75/7](#) and [A/75/7/Corr.1](#), para. III.13, and [A/74/7](#), para. III.10) (para. III.10).

Discussions between the Enterprise Resource Planning Solution Division, the International Court of Justice, and the United Nations human resources and finance business areas are ongoing, including through weekly progress meetings. The deployment of Umoja at the Court will be presented to the Umoja Change Board, as the principal body responsible for the continued development of Umoja, for its review and approval in April 2022. In the meantime, the Court's Umoja task force is continuing its preparations for the forthcoming deployment, including by identifying possible issues and addressing them on time to ensure a smooth transition.

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## Annex III

## Summary of proposed post changes, by component

<i>Component</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Registry	1	P-3	<b>Establishment</b> of 1 Information Systems Officer (Cybersecurity)	<p>The repeated attempts to gain access to the sensitive information of the International Court of Justice, including through an increasing number of attacks on its electronic systems, requires strengthening of the Court's information and communications technology (ICT) capacity. The proposed establishment of one post of Information Systems Officer would enable the Court to develop and put in place a modern and secure ICT infrastructure. The functions of the incumbent would include: (a) managing information security projects involving security threat studies, systems analysis and the design, development and implementation of new systems to secure the information of the Court; (b) developing, implementing and advising on policies on information security practices that ensure the preservation of the confidentiality, integrity and continued availability of information assets based on the needs of the Court and its staff, business processes, workflows, technical architecture and information resource analysis; (c) defining technical and procedural security controls that address the protection of all information processed, whether verbally, electronically, on paper or in any other format, while taking into consideration endpoint security, network security, security architecture and service desk operations; and (d) assisting the Head of the Information and Communications Technology Division in some administrative aspects of information security matters.</p>