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Proposed programme budget for 2024

Programme planning

Proposed programme budget for 2024

Part III

International justice and law

Section 7

International Court of Justice

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* [A/78/50](#).

** In keeping with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution [77/267](#), the part consisting of the programme plan and programme performance information (part II) is submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination for the consideration of the Assembly.

*** In keeping with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution [77/267](#), the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements (part III) is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the 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.

The Court experienced an unprecedented level of judicial activity in 2022, marking one of the most dynamic periods in the institution's recent history. In 2022, the Court held hearings in six cases, delivered four judgments in contentious proceedings and issued two orders relating to the indication or modification of provisional measures, in addition to several procedural orders. Furthermore, in 2022, the Court saw a significant increase in recourse to incidental proceedings, with 32 declarations of interventions filed in one case, and requests to indicate or modify provisional measures submitted in four pending cases.

The coming years promise to be just as busy for the Court. With 17 cases on its General List as at 1 April 2023 – 6 of which were introduced in 2022 and 2023 – the Court has already been seized of two advisory proceedings in 2023 and expects to continue to deliberate on several cases simultaneously, in order to deal with its heavy docket.

To meet the demands of its ever-growing workload, the Court has focused its budgetary proposal for 2024 on the financial resources that are essential for the fulfilment of its core judicial tasks and the efficient functioning of its Registry.

(Signed) Philippe **Gautier**
Registrar

A. Proposed programme plan for 2024 and programme performance in 2022

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 the Statute of the Court, 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/77/4](#). 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 Although the Court cannot forecast its main workload indicators (e.g. the number of cases that will be pending before the Court in 2024 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 2024 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 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 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 2024

- 7.7 To contribute to the objective, the Registry will:
- (a) Respond to the needs of the Court in carrying out its judicial activities;
 - (b) 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 2024.
- 7.9 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2024 is based on the planning assumption that the Court's judicial activities in 2024 will involve a similar level of work as in 2022 and 2023.
- 7.10 With regard to cooperation with other entities, the Registry of the Court will continue to cooperate closely with United Nations offices and institutions in 2024.

Impact of the pandemic and lessons learned

- 7.11 The continuation of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic into 2022 had an impact on the implementation of mandates, in particular on the Court's ability to conduct its judicial activities in person in The Hague. For instance, in 2022, the Court held three of its six sets of scheduled hearings in a hybrid format, with some members of the Court and members of the parties' respective delegations present in the Great Hall of Justice and others participating by video link. In the first half of 2022, the Court also continued to hold its internal meetings on budgetary, administrative and judicial matters on a hybrid basis. The organization of those hybrid hearings and meetings entailed a greater reliance on videoconferencing technology, the provision of increased technical support to members of the Court and parties to pending cases and the establishment of specific arrangements for virtual simultaneous interpretation and the electronic distribution of documents. Since June 2022, the Court has transitioned from hybrid to in-person working methods for its public hearings and private meetings, as a result of the progressive lifting of restrictions arising from the pandemic.

- 7.12 The Registry continues to mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of the programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, including by retaining the possibility of holding its hearings and readings of its judgments by video link in certain circumstances, following the amendment of the Rules of Court and the adoption of guidelines for the parties on the organization of hearings by video link. Through the use of upgraded videoconference technology, and drawing on the experience gained in the past three years, the Registry may also, where appropriate, consider conducting some of its informal meetings and outreach activities in a hybrid or virtual format.

Programme performance in 2022

Enhanced technical support to members of the Court and parties to pending cases with respect to the organization of hybrid hearings

- 7.13 During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Court adapted to the need to work remotely in order to continue to perform its judicial functions. Between 2020 and 2022, 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 enhanced 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, which involved participants joining from different locations around the world.
- 7.14 Progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 7.1).

Table 7.1
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)
Members of the Court and parties to pending cases received enhanced technical support with respect to hybrid hearings in 3 cases	Members of the Court and parties to pending cases received enhanced technical support with respect to hybrid hearings in 5 cases	Members of the Court and parties to pending cases received enhanced technical support with respect to hybrid hearings in 3 cases

Planned results for 2024

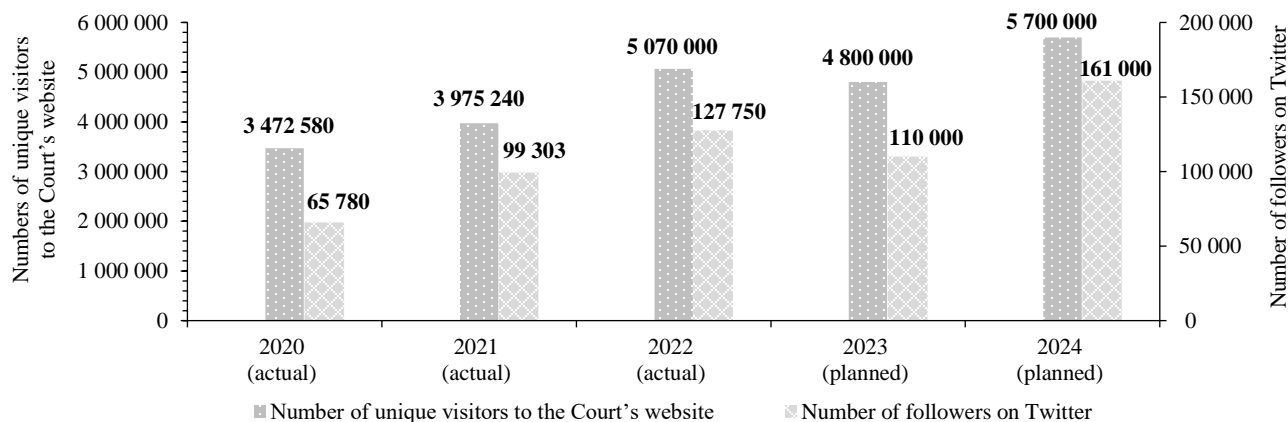
Result 1: improved outreach to promote awareness and understanding of the Court's role as the principal judicial organ of the United Nations

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

- 7.15 The work of the Registry contributed to the website of the Court receiving 5.07 million unique visitors and to the Court having 127,750 followers on Twitter in 2022, which exceeded the planned target of 3.8 million unique visitors and 100,000 followers, respectively.
- 7.16 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 7.I).

Figure 7.I

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



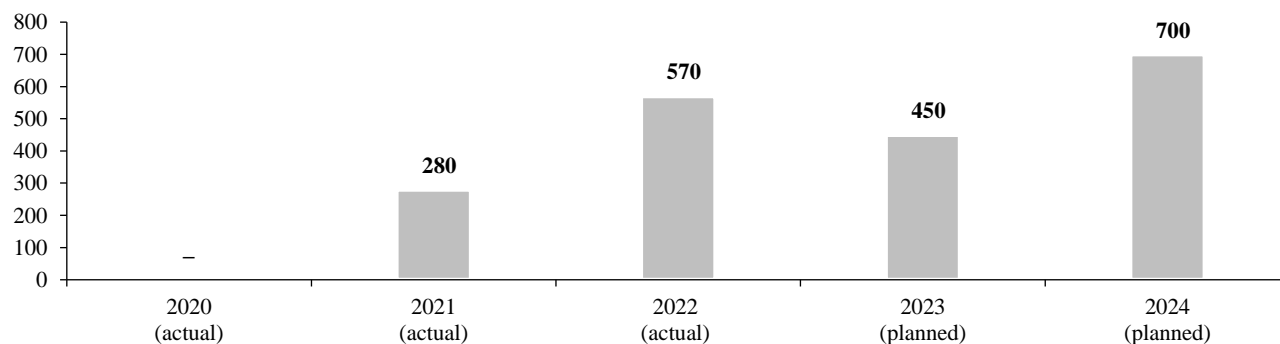
Result 2: improved understanding and awareness of the Court's proceedings among the diplomatic and legal community

Programme performance in 2022 and target for 2024

- 7.17 The Registry's work contributed to 570 stakeholders in the diplomatic and legal community having improved understanding and awareness of the Court's proceedings, which exceeded the planned target of 350 stakeholders.
- 7.18 Progress towards the objective and the target for 2024 are presented in the performance measure below (see figure 7.II).

Figure 7.II

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



Result 3: increased dissemination of the Court's publications

Proposed programme plan for 2024

- 7.19 The Registry of the Court produces a wide range of information material for different audiences, including publications containing the Court's decisions, documentation relating to each concluded case and the Court's basic texts and documents; the *Annuaire/Yearbook* describing the work achieved by the Court during each calendar year; bibliographies listing the works and documents referring to the Court that have come to its attention during the previous year; and a handbook providing the general public with a simple and comprehensible overview of the history, composition, jurisdiction,

procedure and decisions of the Court. Some of these publications are available in electronic format on the website of the Court.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 7.20 The lesson for the Registry was that the publications of the Court could be advertised and distributed through a broader variety of formats and dissemination methods, to ensure greater impact and visibility. In applying the lesson, the Registry will further disseminate the Court's publications through the following activities: (a) adding titles to the existing collections to enhance the Court's presence in the United Nations iLibrary, as more publications are digitized; (b) developing the "Publications" page on the Court's website, including by creating interactive tools and posting news items at regular intervals; (c) increasing efforts to advertise new titles through the Court's social media accounts and to strengthen collaboration with external social media channels within the United Nations system; and (d) furthering the use of existing mailing lists and targeting new groups of potential readers.
- 7.21 Expected progress towards the objective is presented in the performance measure below (see table 7.2).

Table 7.2
Performance measure

2020 (actual)	2021 (actual)	2022 (actual)	2023 (planned)	2024 (planned)
Access by the general public to the bibliography of works referring to the Court	Increased accessibility of Court publications through access by the general public to digital collections in the United Nations iLibrary; access by the general public to a revised consolidated version of the Court's basic documents	Access by the general public to the anniversary book and the new catalogue of the Court's publications since 1946	Visually impaired and people with print-reading disabilities have access to the anniversary book; access by the general public to a catalogue of new publications and the entire set of the reprinted decisions of the Permanent Court of International Justice	Access by the general public to an increased digital collection of publications in the United Nations iLibrary and on the redesigned "Publications" page on the Court's website

Legislative mandates

- 7.22 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. Pursuant to its Statute, the Court's role is to settle, in accordance with international law, legal disputes submitted to it by States and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies.

Deliverables

- 7.23 Table 7.3 lists all deliverables of the Registry.

Table 7.3

Registry: deliverables for the period 2022–2024, by category and subcategory

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>	<i>2022 actual</i>	<i>2023 planned</i>	<i>2024 planned</i>
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	23	Unforeseeable^a	Unforeseeable^a
2. Judgments, advisory opinions and orders	Unforeseeable ^a	23	Unforeseeable ^a	Unforeseeable ^a
Substantive services for judicial proceedings (number of documents)	1 685	1 790	1 585	1 585
3. Preparation of documents (minutes of private meetings of the Court, case-related letters and distributions prepared, memorandums, speeches, etc.)	1 685	1 790	1 585	1 585
Conference and secretariat services for judicial proceedings (number of three-hour sittings)	149	178	149	165
4. Interpretation at private meetings and public hearings of the Court	149	178	149	165
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)	27 660	35 965	27 800	32 800
7. Translation of documents related to the Court's judicial activities	7 660	8 438	7 800	7 800
8. Processing (editing and proofreading) of documents related to the Court's judicial activities	20 000	27 527	20 000	25 000
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	4	32	6	30
9. Presentations, briefings, workshops and conferences on proceedings of the Court for the diplomatic and legal community	4	32	6	30
Publications of the Court (number of publications)	26	50	25	39
10. Applications/special agreements (including annexes)	Unforeseeable ^a	4	Unforeseeable ^a	Unforeseeable ^a
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 ^b	32 ^c	19 ^c	31 ^c
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.))	2	11	2	4
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: lectures and presentations for legal and academic visitors, the diplomatic community, students and journalists.				
External and media relations: press releases and summaries of decisions.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: 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 The planned figures for 2022 were based on the number of volumes of written pleadings received from States involved in proceedings before the Court. The approach for 2022 actual and 2023 and 2024 planned reflect the number of volumes printed and issued by the Court in the pleadings series.

^c Includes the annexes to the pleadings, which are contained in USB sticks 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 2024

Overview

- 7.24 The proposed regular budget resources for 2024, 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	2022 expenditure	2023 appropriation	Changes					2024 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Posts	13 540.0	14 452.2	—	—	174.6	174.6	1.2	14 626.8
Other staff costs	1 637.9	1 959.1	(43.5)	143.7	39.1	139.3	7.1	2 098.4
Non-staff compensation	7 196.4	7 794.7	—	—	395.2	395.2	5.1	8 189.9
Hospitality	5.5	9.3	—	—	—	—	—	9.3
Consultants	1.1	44.7	—	—	—	—	—	44.7
Experts	40.5	79.3	—	—	—	—	—	79.3
Travel of staff	37.0	69.0	—	—	—	—	—	69.0
Contractual services	1 681.6	1 723.6	(27.6)	59.0	(71.5)	(40.1)	(2.3)	1 683.5
General operating expenses	2 315.5	2 349.0	(22.1)	24.3	—	2.2	0.1	2 351.2
Supplies and materials	246.6	316.7	(8.0)	9.0	—	1.0	0.3	317.7
Furniture and equipment	248.0	182.9	—	—	—	—	—	182.9
Grants and contributions	120.4	130.4	—	—	—	—	—	130.4
Total	27 070.6	29 110.9	(101.2)	236.0	537.4	672.2	2.3	29 783.1

Table 7.5

Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2024

(Number of posts)

	Number	Details
Approved for 2023	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	3	1 P-4 and 2 GS (OL) under Registry
Proposed for 2024	120	1 ASG, 1 D-2, 1 D-1, 4 P-5, 18 P-4, 17 P-3, 20 P-2/1, 6 GS (PL), 52 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	2023 approved	Changes			Total	2024 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	—	—	1	1	18
P-3	17	—	—	—	—	17
P-2/1	20	—	—	—	—	20
Subtotal	61	—	—	1	1	62
General Service and related						
GS (PL)	6	—	—	—	—	6
GS (OL)	50	—	—	2	2	52
Subtotal	56	—	—	2	2	58
Total	117	—	—	3	3	120

7.25 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2024 are reflected in tables 7.7 to 7.9 and figure 7.III.

7.26 As reflected in tables 7.7 and 7.8, the overall resources proposed for 2024 amount to \$29,783,100 before recosting, reflecting a net increase of \$672,200 (or 2.3 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2023. Resource changes result from three factors, namely: (a) technical adjustments; (b) new and expanded mandates; and (c) 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	2022 expenditure	2023 appropriation	Changes			Total	Percentage	2024 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Members of the Court	7 210.8	7 904.2	—	—	395.2	395.2	5.0	8 299.4
Registry	15 497.8	16 768.3	(43.5)	143.7	213.7	313.9	1.9	17 082.2
Programme support	4 362.0	4 438.4	(57.7)	92.3	(71.5)	(36.9)	(0.8)	4 401.5
Total	27 070.6	29 110.9	(101.2)	236.0	537.4	672.2	2.3	29 783.1

Table 7.8
Overall: proposed posts for 2024 by component

(Number of posts)

Regular budget

Component	2023 approved	Changes				2024 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Members of the Court	—	—	—	—	—	—
Registry	117	—	—	3	3	120
Programme support	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	117	—	—	3	3	120

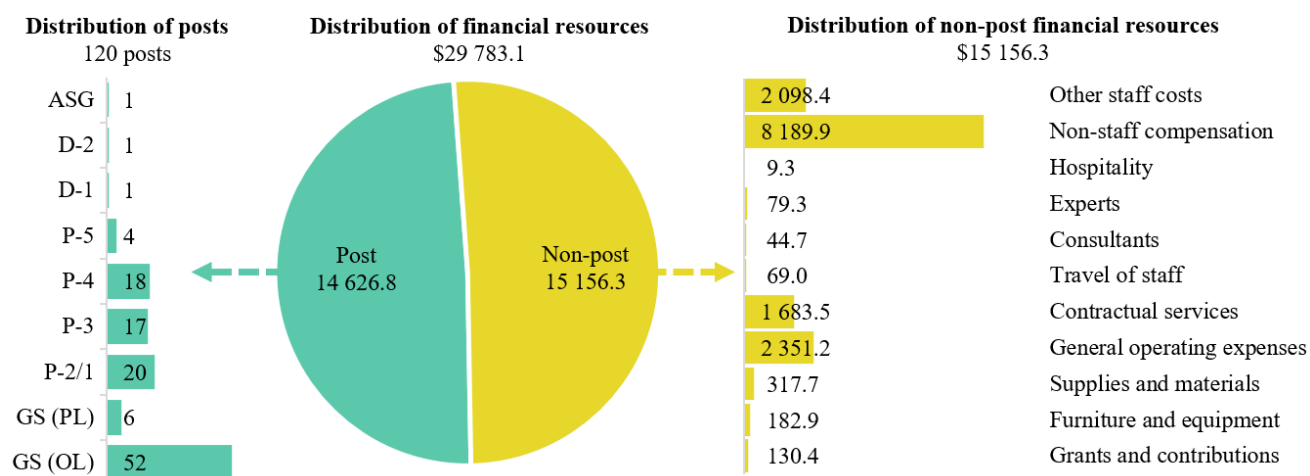
Table 7.9
Overall: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2022 expenditure	2023 appropriation	Changes					2024 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	13 540.0	14 452.2	—	—	174.6	174.6	1.2	14 626.8
Non-post	13 530.6	14 658.7	(101.2)	236.0	362.8	497.6	3.4	15 156.3
Total	27 070.6	29 110.9	(101.2)	236.0	537.4	672.2	2.3	29 783.1
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		61	—	—	1	1	1.6	62
General Service and related		56	—	—	2	2	3.6	58
Total		117	—	—	3	3	2.6	120

Figure 7.III
Distribution of proposed resources for 2024 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Explanation of variances by factor and component

Overall resource changes

Technical adjustments

7.27 As reflected in table 7.7, resource changes reflect a net decrease of \$101,200, as follows:

- (a) **Registry.** The net decrease of \$43,500 relates to:
 - (i) An increase of \$77,300 under other staff costs, reflecting the provision, at continuing vacancy rates, for the Information Systems Officer (P-3) position that was established in 2023, under general temporary assistance, and subject to a 50 per cent vacancy rate in accordance with the established practice for newly established positions;
 - (ii) A decrease of \$120,800 under other staff costs relating to the removal of non-recurrent resources approved for the advisory opinion on Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 77/247;
- (b) **Programme support.** The decrease of \$57,700 relates to the removal of non-recurrent resources approved for the advisory opinion in the case concerning the legal consequences arising from the policies and practices of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 77/247.

New and expanded mandates

7.28 As reflected in table 7.7, resource changes reflect an increase of \$236,000 to support the request that the Court render an advisory opinion on the obligations of States in respect of climate change, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 77/276. The resources would be distributed as follows:

- (a) **Registry.** An increase of \$143,700, under other staff costs, to provide for interpretation and documentation services under other staff costs;
- (b) **Programme support.** An increase of \$92,300, which reflects additional expected costs under:
 - (i) Contractual services (\$59,000);
 - (ii) General operating expenses (\$24,300);
 - (iii) Supplies and materials (\$9,000).

Other changes

7.29 As reflected in table 7.7, resource changes reflect a net increase of \$537,400, as follows:

- (a) **Members of the Court.** The net increase of \$395,200, under non-staff compensation, reflects mainly the estimated repatriation costs for five judges whose terms of office will come to an end in February 2024 and an increase in the number of children of judges entitled to an education grant, partly offset by a decrease under travel of non-resident judges to Court sessions and of resident judges and their dependants to their home countries;
- (b) **Registry.** The increase of \$213,700 reflects:
 - (i) An increase of \$174,600 for the proposed establishment of three new posts: a Reviser (French) (P-4) and a Language Service Assistant (GS (OL)) in the Department of Linguistic Matters and an Editorial Assistant (English) (GS (OL)) in the Publishing Division (see annex III);
 - (ii) An increase of \$39,100 under other staff costs for temporary assistance for meetings, to address the increase in the number of meetings and public sittings of the Court requiring interpretation services;

(c) **Programme support.** The net decrease of \$71,500 relates to:

- (i) A decrease of \$103,000, under contractual services, due to the planned discontinuation of the use of the existing cloud content services platform and the decrease in costs relating to the Enterprise SharePoint 2016 services provided by the United Nations International Computing Centre, all of which was made possible by leveraging the use of Microsoft cloud services with the added in-house expertise of the Information Systems Officer (P-3) position approved under general temporary assistance for 2023;
- (ii) An increase in external printing costs (\$31,500), attributable to the need to print, publish and distribute publications containing case-related documentation, which has increased with the Court's growing workload.

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 2024 amount to \$8,299,400 and reflect an increase of \$395,200 compared with the appropriation for 2023. The proposed increase is explained in paragraph 7.29 (a). Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2024 are reflected in table 7.10 and figure 7.IV.

Table 7.10

Members of the Court: evolution of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2022 expenditure	2023 appropriation	Changes					2024 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	7 210.8	7 904.2	—	—	395.2	395.2	5.0	8 299.4
Total	7 210.8	7 904.2	—	—	395.2	395.2	5.0	8 299.4

Figure 7.IV
Members of the Court: distribution of proposed resources for 2024 (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, archival, distribution and documentary and library services, including digitization and digitalization, and acts as the regular channel for communications to and from the Court.
- 7.33 Information on 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 2022 limited the ability to comply with the advance booking for air travel.

Table 7.11
Compliance rate
 (Percentage)

	<i>Actual 2020</i>	<i>Actual 2021</i>	<i>Actual 2022</i>	<i>Planned 2023</i>	<i>Planned 2024</i>
Timely submission of documentation	100	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	82	86	61	100	100

- 7.34 The proposed regular budget resources for 2024 amount to \$17,082,200 and reflect a net increase of \$313,900 compared with the appropriation for 2023. The proposed net increase is explained in paragraphs 7.27 (a), 7.28 (a) and 7.29 (b). Additional details are reflected in table 7.12 and figure 7.V.

Table 7.12

Registry: evolution of financial and post resources

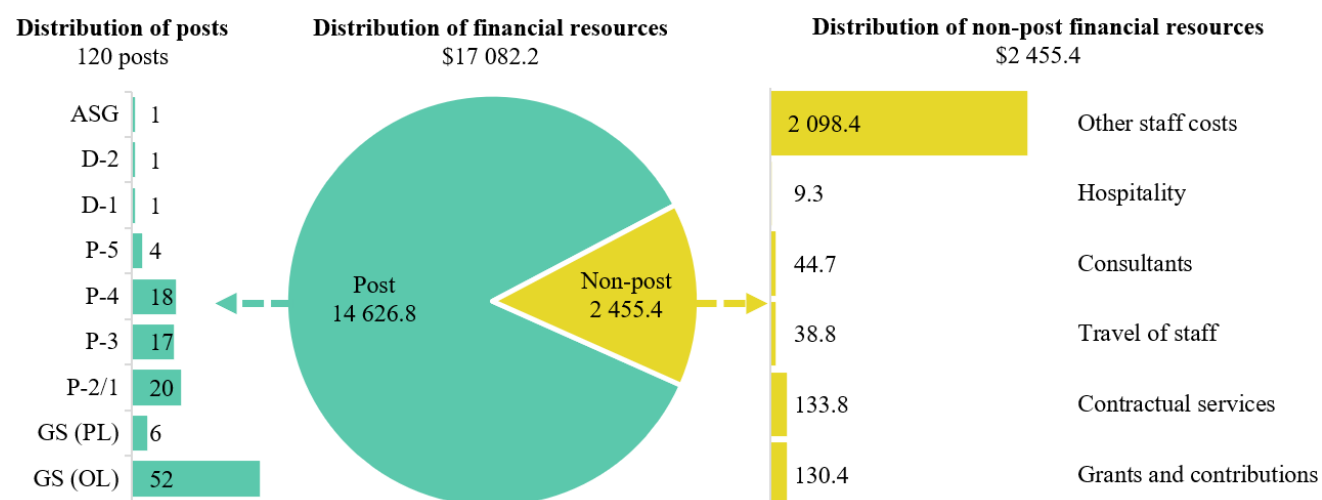
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2022 expenditure	2023 appropriation	Changes					2024 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	13 540.0	14 452.2	–	–	174.6	174.6	1.2	14 626.8
Non-post	1 957.9	2 316.1	(43.5)	143.7	39.1	139.3	6.0	2 455.4
Total	15 497.8	16 768.3	(43.5)	143.7	213.7	313.9	1.9	17 082.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		61	–	–	1	1	1.6	62
General Service and related		56	–	–	2	2	3.6	58
Total		117	–	–	3	3	2.6	120

Figure 7.V

Registry: distribution of proposed resources for 2024 (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 2024 amount to \$4,401,500 and reflect a net decrease of \$36,900 compared with the appropriation for 2023. The proposed decrease is explained in paragraphs 7.27 (b), 7.28 (b) and 7.29 (c). Additional details are reflected in table 7.13 and figure 7.VI.

Table 7.13

Programme support: evolution of financial resources

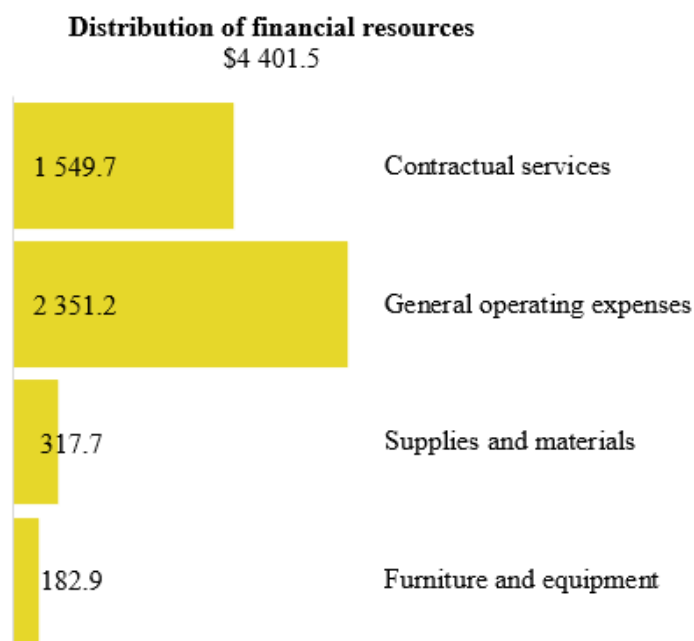
(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2022 expenditure	2023 appropriation	Changes					2024 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Non-post	4 362.0	4 438.4	(57.7)	92.3	(71.5)	(36.9)	(0.8)	4 401.5
Total	4 362.0	4 438.4	(57.7)	92.3	(71.5)	(36.9)	(0.8)	4 401.5

Figure 7.VI

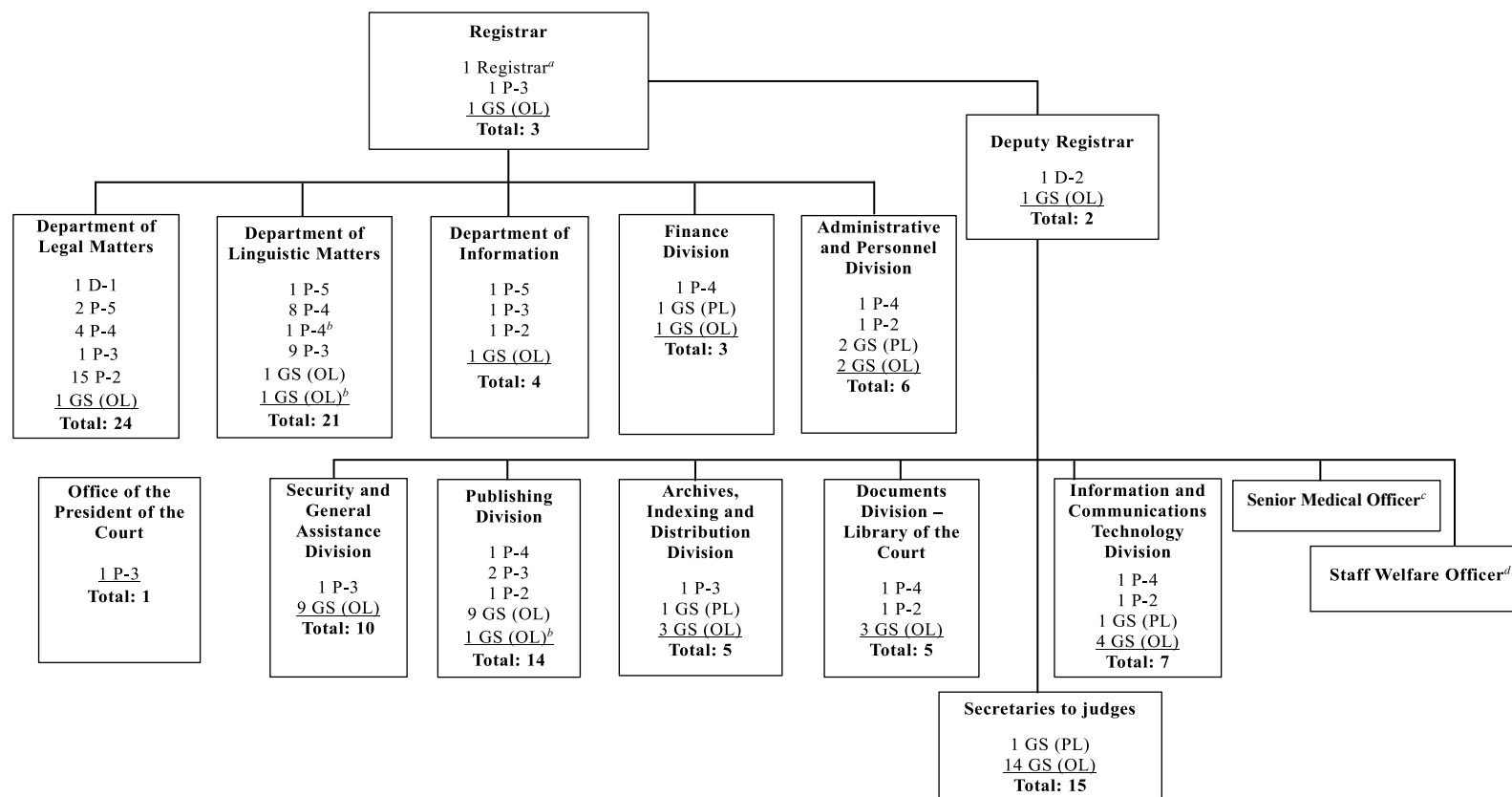
Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2024 (before recosting)

(Thousands of United States dollars)



Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2024



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. 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.

^b New posts.

^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 advisory and oversight bodies

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

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/77/7)

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 and trusts that updated information, including a clear timeline for the deployment of Umoja, will be provided to the General Assembly at the time of its consideration of the present report (see also [A/76/7](#) and [A/76/7/Corr.1](#), para. III.10, [A/75/7](#) and [A/75/7/Corr.1](#), para. III.13, and [A/74/7](#), para. III.10) (para. III.11).

On 1 January 2023, Umoja was successfully implemented at the International Court of Justice, with the support of the Enterprise Resource Planning Solution Division

Annex III

Summary of proposed post changes, by component

Component	Posts	Grade	Description	Reasons for change
Registry	1	P-4	Establishment of 1 Reviser (French) (Department of Linguistic Matters)	<p>The sustained increase in the workload of the International Court of Justice over the past few years has resulted in a sharp rise in the number of documents translated and revised by the Department of Linguistic Matters, from a total of 7,457,363 words in 2015, to 9,351,000 in 2020, to well over 10,000,000 words each year in 2021 and 2022. These include documents related to the Court's judicial activities, which increased from 5,962,245 words in 2015 to 7,282,000 in 2020, to over 8,000,000 words each year in 2021 and 2022.</p> <p>Current capacities, which include the use of temporary assistance from external translators and revisers and a language service assistant, and the implementation of a computer-assisted translation tool, remain insufficient to meet the needs of the Court and maintain the standards expected of the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. The new reviser will, in particular, assist in the revision of written pleadings (of which there is a growing backlog) and decisions of the Court, thus enabling the Court to deal as efficiently and effectively as possible with its heavy workload and to respond in a timely manner to the requests submitted to it by Member States and organs of the United Nations.</p>
Registry	1	GS (OL)	Establishment of 1 Language Service Assistant (Department of Linguistic Matters)	<p>Since 2018, the Department of Linguistic Matters has benefited from the services of a part-time temporary language service assistant, funded under temporary assistance for meetings, to perform a number of administrative and support tasks, which include maintaining and updating the Department's terminology database and search engine; aligning original and translated texts; monitoring incoming work and assigning tasks within the Department; preparing annotated lists of annexes; collating statistics; liaising with external translators, revisers and interpreters; and providing reference material and technical support.</p> <p>The current arrangement is not sustainable, as the function is required on a longer-term basis. The proposed establishment of a post of Language Service Assistant would provide that support role. In addition, the incumbent would provide essential support services to the linguists and relieve them of general service and administrative tasks that would otherwise fall to them, enabling them to focus on their core tasks of translating, revising and editing.</p>
Registry	1	GS (OL)	Establishment of 1 Editorial Assistant (English) (Publishing Division)	<p>In recent years, the volume of case-related documents processed (edited and proofread) by the Document Production Unit of the Publishing Division has grown from 11,590,000 words in 2016 (28,976 pages) to 27,527,000 of words in 2022 (68,819 pages). As a result of that increase, the Division lacks the human resources necessary to continue to support the Court's core business and concurrently perform additional tasks with a view to overcoming the existing backlog in some of the publication series and preventing future backlogs.</p> <p>Although past peak periods could generally be dealt with by obtaining assistance under temporary contracts, the need to recruit a new editorial assistant has become more frequent, requiring a permanent solution.</p> <p>The functions involved include coordinating, monitoring and correcting the pre-press work done by the Unit's English pre-printing team. This would include preparing the verbatim records produced in connection with the Court's hearings, namely, initial proofreading of texts submitted by counsel before delivery and final proofreading of the English sections following the compilation of the original version of the record.</p>

Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).