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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS FIFTEENTH SPECIAL SESSION

Scientific and technological developments and their
impact on international security

Programme budget implications of draft resolution
A/C.1/43/L.54/Rev.1

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. At its 41st meeting, held on 17 November 1988, the First Committee adopted draft resolution **A/C.1/43/L.54/Rev.1** by a recorded vote of 109 to 7, with 14 abstentions. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution was **before** the Committee in document **A/C.1/43/L.77**.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution **A/C.1/43/L.54/Rev.1**, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to follow future scientific and technological developments, especially those which have potential military applications, and to evaluate their impact on international security, with the assistance of qualified consultant experts, as appropriate, and to submit a report to the **Ge..eral** Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

3. In operative paragraph 2, the General Assembly would invite Member States to establish panels at the national level to monitor and evaluate such developments and disseminate the assessments provided by the Secretary-General.

4. In operative paragraph 3, the General Assembly would further invite all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and proposals as well as the evaluations of the national panels,

5. In operative paragraph 4, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the resolution.

B . Relationship of the proposed request to the approved programme of work

6. The above request is related to the activities referred to under (a) chapter 1, Political and Security Council affairs, programme 2, Activities of the Department for Disarmament Affairs, subprogramme 3, Studies on disarmament, of the current medium-term plan 1/ as proposed for revision, 2/ and (b) section 2B, Disarmament affairs activities, of the approved programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. 3/ subprogramme 3, Studies on disarmament, programme element 3.2, Studies and their follow-up, which covers the preparations for and execution of various studies requested by the General Assembly.

C. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

7. Should the Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General, in order to implement operative paragraph 1, would establish a group of qualified consultant experts. The group would be comprised of up to six consultants with specific scientific or technological expertise appropriate to the subject,

8. The consultants would meet twice in New York, once in 1989 and once in 1990 as follows:

(a) 1 week (spring 1989);

(b) 1 week (February/March 1990).

9. The consultants would meet in the offices of the Department for Disarmament Affairs without any requirement for meeting services. Following the first meeting, it is envisaged that the consultants would each prepare individual assessment papers in the areas of their specific expertise, which would then be circulated to the other consultants of the group for information and comment. At the second meeting the members would update their papers as necessary and prepare a report for submission to the Secretary-General.

10. The Secretary General would authorize payment of travel costs and daily subsistence allowance for the experts participating in the sessions, together with appropriate honorariums.

11. It is envisaged that the necessary substantive support services for the consultants would be provided by the staff of the Department for Disarmament Affairs in New York,

D. Modifications required in the approved programme of work

12. The activities of the proposal involving the permanent staff of the Department for Disarmament Affairs fall under programme element 3.2 of subprogramme 3 of section 2B of the approved programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. Accordingly, no modifications to that programme element are required.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

13. The requirements to undertake the activities described in paragraphs 7 to 11 above are as follows:

	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>
	\$	\$
Honorariums (\$12,000 for each year), travel and daily subsistence allowance (\$20,900 for each year) for six consultants for two meetings in New York (one in 1989 and one in 1990)	32 900	32 900

F. Potential for absorption

14. No programme element under any subprogramme within section 2B, Department for Disarmament Affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 is proposed for curtailment, postponement or termination to offset the additional costs that would result from the adoption of the draft resolution.

G. Request for additional appropriation

15. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/43/L.54/Rev.1, the Secretary-General would cover the additional costs from extrabudgetary resources and therefore no additional appropriation would be required under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989. The 1990-1991 requirements would be treated similarly.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6 and Corr.1) and *ibid.*, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/39/6 and Corr.1).

2/ A/43/6.

3/ A/42/6 (sect. 2B).