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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.38

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

1. At its 34th meeting, on 12 November 1991, the First Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.38, by a recorded vote of 102 to 4, with 28 abstentions. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in document A/C.1/46/L.44.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 6, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.38, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide to convene the first stage of the United Nations Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo in 1993 or as soon as possible, in accordance with the present resolution and in consultation with the host country;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to appoint the Secretary-General of the Conference at an appropriate time and to make all necessary arrangements, including the provision of financial resources for convening the Conference at Colombo, in consultation with the host country;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to invite all States to participate in the Conference and other relevant bodies and organizations to attend as observers;

(d) Request the Secretary-General to provide to the Conference all relevant documentation in accordance with paragraphs 48 and 49 of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean; 1/

(e) Decide that the Ad Hoc Committee would hold a session of five working days in 1992 to perform its preparatory functions for the various stages envisaged for the Conference.

B. Relationship of requests to the proposed programme of work

3. The requests contained in paragraph 1 above would fall under subprogramme 2 (Services for political and security affairs) of programme 2 (Political and Security Council affairs) of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997. 2/ Provision is made in the corresponding subprogramme of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 3/ (sect. 3 (a), subprogramme 2) for substantive services for the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and preparation for and substantive servicing of the Conference on the Indian Ocean should it be decided to hold the Conference during 1992-1993.

C. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would undertake the necessary preparations for the servicing of one session of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean in New York in 1992 and of the Conference on the Indian Ocean at Colombo in 1993 or as soon as possible.

5. Invitations to the Conference would be issued in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 (c) above.

6. Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2 (d) above, the Secretary-General would provide to the Conference the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session and make available other substantive documents of the Ad Hoc Committee, including its reports, summary records and all relevant documents of the General Assembly not reproduced in the aforesaid documents.

7. In preparing for the Conference, the Secretary-General would appoint as Secretary-General of the Conference a senior member of the Secretariat and provide adequate support to that official in carrying out the tasks involved. Steps would be initiated to conclude a host country agreement with the Government of Sri Lanka, which has offered to host the Conference. In addition, and in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 37/14 B of 16 November 1982, a Conference Management Committee would be established at the Secretariat level under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the Conference, with representation from all departments and offices involved in the preparation and organization of the Conference. Consultations would also be undertaken, as appropriate, with other organizations of the United Nations system.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for 1992-1993

8. As indicated in section B above, section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 includes provision for substantive and technical support for the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and the Conference. Consequently, no modification would be required were the General Assembly to adopt the draft resolution.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

9. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it is assumed that the Ad Hoc Committee would hold one session of five working days in New York from 18 to 22 May 1992. The meeting would require the provision of interpretation in the six languages of the General Assembly and translation of pre-session documentation of 10 pages (2 documents), in-session documentation of 15 pages (3 documents) and post-session documentation of 32 pages (1 document) to be issued in the six languages of the General Assembly. In addition, under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/238 B of 21 December 1990, the Ad Hoc Committee is entitled to summary records in the six languages of the General Assembly, pending a further decision of the Assembly.

10. The related full cost of provision of conference servicing for the five-day session in New York is estimated at \$283,500, as follows:

		\$
I.	<u>Pre-session documentation</u>	
	(10 pages, 2 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	12 500
II.	<u>Meeting servicing</u>	
	(Interpretation: A,C,E,F,R,S)	50 200
III.	<u>In-session documentation</u>	
	(15 pages, 3 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	18 800
IV.	<u>Post-session documentation</u>	
	(32 pages, 1 document: A,C,E,F,R,S)	35 400
V.	<u>Summary records</u>	
	(10 meetings: A,C,E,F,R,S)	166 600
	Total	283 500

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11. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, it is further assumed that the Conference on the Indian Ocean would be convened at Colombo for 10 days in 1993, with pre-conference consultations being held for 2 days prior to the opening of the Conference in accordance with paragraph 12 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/10 C of 3 November 1980 concerning guidelines on arrangements for special conferences. In this connection, it is the understanding of the Secretary-General that, as host Government, the Government of Sri Lanka would defray the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved in meeting at Colombo rather than New York, consistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985.

12. The Conference would require the provision of interpretation in the six languages of the General Assembly, translation of pre-session documentation of 100 pages (5 documents), in-session documentation of 125 pages (15 documents), and post-session documentation of 150 pages (1 document). Under the provisions of paragraphs 6 and 8 of General Assembly resolution 37/14 C of 16 November 1982, summary records are not normally provided to special conferences and their preparatory organs unless the General Assembly gives explicit approval for an exception to this general rule.

13. The related full cost of provision of conference servicing for the Conference, were it held in New York, is estimated at \$570,100, as follows:

	\$
I. <u>Pre-session documentation</u>	
(100 pages, 5 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	117 500
II. <u>Meeting servicing</u>	
(Interpretation: A,C,E,F,R,S)	127 200
III. <u>In-session documentation</u>	
(125 pages, 15 documents: A,C,E,F,R,S)	154 200
IV. <u>Post-session documentation</u>	
(150 pages, 1 document: A,C,E,F,R,S)	<u>171 200</u>
Total	<u>570 100</u>

14. In addition to the conference-servicing requirements, additional costs of \$10,300 would arise for travel and subsistence of representatives of national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974. In that resolution the General Assembly decided to invite as observers

representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by OAU to participate in conferences held under the auspices of the United Nations which related to their countries and requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with OAU, to ensure that the necessary arrangements were made for their effective participation, including the requisite financial provisions.

15. As indicated in section B above, provision for substantive support of the Conference is made under section 3 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Consequently, no additional requirements are anticipated in this respect.

F. Potential for absorption

16. As regards the estimated conference-servicing costs in New York of the two meetings called for in the draft resolution and outlined in paragraphs 10 and 13 above, these estimates, totalling \$853,600, are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 32 of the proposed programme budget and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the Organization's permanent capacity needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can be determined only in the light of the final calendar of conferences for 1992-1993. As indicated in paragraph 32.4 of the proposed programme budget, however, the level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings in 1992-1993 was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings which are programmed but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the time of budget preparation but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1992-1993 was consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 32 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 as a result of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.38.

17. As regards the additional costs of \$10,300 for travel of representatives of national liberation movements indicated in paragraph 14 above, it would be possible to absorb these costs within the overall level of resources under section 3 of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993.

G. Summary

18. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/46/L.38, no additional appropriation would be required under section 3 or 32 of the proposed programme budget for 1992-1993.

19. Should the Conference on the Indian Ocean be convened at Colombo, it is the understanding of the Secretary-General that the host Government would defray the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved in meeting at Colombo, consistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 40/243.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 29 (A/26/29).

2/ Ibid., Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

3/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. I.
