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**Investigation into the conditions and circumstances
resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld
and of the members of the party accompanying him**

Programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/69/L.42

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

I. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of draft resolution [A/69/L.42](#), the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to appoint an independent panel of experts to examine new information and to assess its probative value;

(b) Encourage Member States to release any relevant records in their possession and to provide to the Secretary-General relevant information related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him;

(c) Request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the progress made.

II. Activities by which the requests would be implemented

2. Pursuant to operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would appoint an independent panel of experts to examine new information



and to assess its probative value. The tasks of the independent panel are foreseen as follows:

- (a) To review the report of the Commission of Jurists on the Inquiry into the death of Dag Hammarskjöld ([A/68/800](#), annex) and the information relied on by the Commission in its report, together with any relevant records and information that might be provided by Member States;
- (b) If necessary and appropriate, to interview witnesses, including expert witnesses, who provided new information contained in that documentation;
- (c) If necessary and appropriate, to visit the site where the incident occurred;
- (d) To produce a report, to include:
 - (i) Findings on what new information is contained in the documentation presented by the Hammarskjöld Commission and provided by Member States;
 - (ii) An assessment of the probative value of that new information for the purpose of identifying the cause or causes of the incident and determining its attribution to any individual or entity;
 - (iii) New statements from any witnesses who were interviewed by the panel and new information provided by Member States, to be affixed as appendices.

3. Pursuant to operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, the request for documentation would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document of 8,500 words in all six languages. That would entail additional requirements in the amount of \$50,900 for documentation services in 2015.

III. Financial implications of the proposals

4. The estimated costs of the independent panel would amount to \$400,100, including for consultants, travel and other operational requirements, under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

5. Further, additional conference-servicing requirements of \$50,900 in 2015 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 to implement the additional workload.

IV. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2014-2015 and beyond

6. No provisions have been made in the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 for the implementation of the activities requested under operative paragraphs 1 and 3 of the draft resolution. At the current stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the sections concerned of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the

amount of \$451,000 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2014-2015.

V. Contingency fund

7. It may be recalled that, under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 and 42/211, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget. Under this procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed the resources available from the contingency fund, the activities concerned would be implemented only through the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or the modification of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities would have to be deferred to a later biennium.

VI. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

8. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution [A/69/L.42](#), it is estimated that an additional appropriation of \$451,000 would be required. It is anticipated that those requirements could not be met from within the resources of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

9. Accordingly, the General Assembly is requested to approve an additional appropriation of \$451,000, representing a charge against the contingency fund, under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination (\$400,100), and under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (\$50,900), of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.
