



Seventieth session**Fifth Committee**

Agenda items 134 and 97 (h)

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017**General and complete disarmament: convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament****Open-ended Working Group on the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament****Programme budget implications of the amendment (A/70/L.26) to the decision recommended in the report of the First Committee (A/70/460)****Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly****I. Introduction**

1. At its 25th meeting, on 5 November 2015, the First Committee adopted draft decision [A/C.1/70/L.11](#) by a recorded vote of 173 to none, with 4 abstentions. An oral statement indicating that there were no budgetary implications of the draft decision was made to the Committee. The draft decision is reflected in paragraph 95 of the report of the First Committee ([A/70/460](#)). Subsequently, on 3 December 2015, an amendment to the draft decision was submitted ([A/70/L.26](#)).

II. Requests contained in the draft decision

2. Subparagraph (a) of the draft decision adopted by the Committee reads: "To hold, at a later date, an organizational session of the Open-ended Working Group on the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament for the purpose of setting a date for its substantive sessions in 2016 and 2017, and that the Working Group should submit a report on its work, including possible substantive recommendations, before the end of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly".



3. As proposed in document [A/70/L.26](#), the General Assembly would amend subparagraph (a) of the decision recommended in the report of the First Committee ([A/70/460](#)) by replacing “at a later date” with “in 2016”, and replacing “setting a date for its substantive sessions in 2016 and 2017” with “setting the dates for its three substantive sessions, consisting of five working days each, in 2016 and 2017”.

III. Relationship of the proposed request to the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 and to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017

4. The requested activities referred to in the draft decision as amended relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2016-2017 ([A/69/6/Rev.1](#)) and section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 (see [A/70/6](#) (Sect. 2) and Corr.1).

IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

5. Pursuant to the draft decision, as amended, it is envisaged that the Open-ended Working Group on the Fourth Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament would hold in New York two additional substantive sessions of five days duration each for a total of 20 meetings, with interpretation in all six languages (one meeting in the morning and one in the afternoon) in 2016 and 2017. This would constitute an addition to the meetings workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (\$222,800). The dates of the aforementioned meetings would have to be decided in consultation with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.

6. Furthermore, the request for documentation would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of 14 documents (2 pre-session documents (660 total words), 10 in-session documents (20,000 total words) and 2 post-session documents (8,000 total words) in 2016 and 2017 to be issued in all six languages (\$170,100).

7. It should be noted that the conference-servicing requirements related to the organizational session and one substantive session in 2016 have been included under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

V. Estimated resource requirements for the biennium 2016-2017

8. To implement the additional workload, there would be additional conference-servicing requirements in the amount of \$392,900 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The details of the additional non-recurrent requirements are provided in the table below.

Additional requirements for the biennium 2016-2017

(United States dollars)

Interpretation	222 800
Pre-session documentation	4 700
In-session documentation	118 400
Post-session documentation	47 000
Total	392 900

VI. Potential for absorption during the biennium 2016-2017

9. No provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the implementation of the activities outlined in paragraphs 5 and 6 above related to the draft decision as amended by document [A/70/L.26](#). At the current stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the section of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the biennium. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the amount of \$392,900 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017.

VII. Contingency fund

10. It will 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 were proposed that exceeded 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.

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

11. **Should the General Assembly adopt the draft decision as amended by document [A/70/L.26](#), additional resource requirements in the amount of \$392,900 would arise under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017. The amount of \$392,900 would require additional appropriation for the biennium 2016-2017 to be approved by the General Assembly, and as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.**