



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
24 September 2021

Original: English

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## Seventy-sixth session

### Fifth Committee

Agenda items 138, 143, 145 and 150

### Proposed programme budget for 2022

#### Human resources management

#### United Nations common system

#### Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

## **Programme budget implications arising from the recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2021**

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

#### *Summary*

The present statement, submitted pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, contains the programme budget implications for the United Nations Secretariat arising from the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission for the common system that call for decisions by the Assembly, in particular for the proposed programme budget for 2022. In the interest of providing comprehensive information, the statement also includes the implications for the budgets of peacekeeping operations for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 peacekeeping financial periods.

Should the General Assembly approve the recommendations of the Commission, there would be no financial implications for the programme budget of the United Nations for 2021. The financial implications for the proposed programme budget for 2022 are estimated at \$1,772,900 and would be taken into account in the context of the revised estimates arising from the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation for the period. The financial implications for peacekeeping operations for the financial period 2021/22 are estimated at \$628,600; the requirements for the financial period 2022/23 are estimated at \$1,257,200 and would be taken into account, as necessary, in the context of the performance reports for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and of the upcoming proposed budgets for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.



## **I. Introduction**

1. The annual report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2021 (A/76/30) contains recommendations giving rise to financial implications for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations Secretariat for 2022 and for the budgets of peacekeeping operations starting with the financial period 2021/22, in relation to the following issues:

- (a) Base/floor salary scale;
- (b) Education grant.

2. The report of the Commission also includes a recommendation to extend the pilot measure of granting a reduced amount of the non-family service allowance in the amount of \$15,000 per annum to staff members with eligible dependants in duty stations with a hardship classification of E that are not designated as non-family, in lieu of the option to install eligible dependants at the duty station, and to extend this measure to category D duty stations not designated as non-family, as originally proposed in 2018. As the United Nations Secretariat has a limited presence in the affected locations, there were no staff members funded from the programme budget or peacekeeping budgets who were eligible for the pilot measure. Accordingly, there would be no financial implications for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for 2022 or for the peacekeeping operations budgets for the financial periods from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

## **II. Base/floor salary scale**

3. The Commission recommends that an increase in the base/floor salary of 0.92 per cent as at 1 January 2022 be implemented by increasing the base/floor salary scale and commensurately decreasing post adjustment multiplier points, resulting in no-loss/no-gain in net take-home pay. The base scale adjustment procedure, while generally cost-neutral in terms of net remuneration, would have implications with regard to separation payments.

4. The system-wide financial implications associated with the Commission's recommendation of an increase of the base/floor salary scale are estimated by the Commission at \$494,000 per annum. Consequently, the financial implications for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations Secretariat for 2022 are estimated at \$67,900. The financial implications for peacekeeping operations are estimated at \$24,100 for the financial period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and \$48,200 for the financial period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

## **III. Education grant: detailed review of the sliding scale and the level of the boarding lump sum**

5. In 2019, the Commission recommended to the General Assembly an adjustment of the sliding reimbursement scale and the boarding lump sum under the revised education grant scheme. In its resolution 74/255 B, the Assembly decided to defer consideration of that recommendation pending a detailed review of the scale and the level of the boarding lump sum, taking into consideration a maximum amount per household. At its ninety-second session, the Commission conducted the detailed review requested by the Assembly on the basis of relevant education-related data collected from the common system organizations.

6. Following discussions, the Commission reconfirmed, for implementation as from the academic year in progress on 1 January 2022, its 2019 recommendation to the General Assembly regarding the adjustment of the sliding reimbursement scale for the education grant and the boarding lump sum as presented in its 2019 annual report ([A/74/30](#), para. 85).

7. The financial implications of the adjustments, as recommended in 2019 ([A/74/30](#), para. 84), have been revised from a previous estimate of \$7.85 million to \$6.55 million per annum, system-wide, on the basis of the latest education grant data collected from common system organizations. In this regard, the financial implications are estimated at \$1,705,000 for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations Secretariat for 2022. The financial implications for peacekeeping operations are estimated at \$604,500 for the financial period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and \$1,209,000 for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

#### **IV. Conclusions and recommendations**

8. **The financial implications arising from the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission are summarized as follows:**

(a) **The financial implications for the proposed programme budget of the United Nations are estimated at \$1,772,900 for 2022;**

(b) **The financial implications for the budgets of peacekeeping operations for the financial period 2021/22 are estimated at \$628,600, and the requirements for the financial period 2022/23 at \$1,257,200.**

9. **Should the General Assembly approve the recommendations of the Commission:**

(a) **Requirements for 2022 would be taken into account in the context of the revised estimates arising from the effect of changes in rates of exchange and inflation for the period;**

(b) **Requirements for the budgets for peacekeeping operations would be addressed, as necessary, in the context of the performance reports for the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and of the upcoming proposed budgets for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.**