

Distr.: General 2 December 2022

Original: English

Seventy-seventh session Fifth Committee Agenda items 138 and 130

Proposed programme budget for 2023

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

### 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/77/L.31

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

#### I. Mandate contained in the draft resolution

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 and 7 of draft resolution A/77/L.31, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to reappoint the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/248 to continue to review the information received and possible new information made available by Member States, including by individuals and private entities, to assess its probative value and to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted; and

(b) Also request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly before the end of its seventy-eighth session on progress made;

# II. Relationship between the mandate contained in the draft resolution and the proposed programme budget for 2023

2. The mandate contained in draft resolution A/77/L.31 requires additional deliverables and activities under the following sections of the proposed programme budget for 2023:





(a) Overall policymaking, direction and coordination (A/77/6 (Sect. 1));

(b) General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (A/77/6 (Sect. 2)).

## III. Deliverables and activities required to implement the mandate contained in the draft resolution

3. Pursuant to the mandate contained in operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would reappoint the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/248 to continue to review the information received and possible new information made available by Member States, including by individuals and private entities, to assess its probative value and to draw conclusions from the investigations already conducted. The tasks of the Eminent Person are foreseen as follows:

(a) To review the reports of and information relied on by: (i) the Commission of Jurists on the Inquiry into the Death of Dag Hammarskjöld (A/68/800); (ii) the Independent Panel of Experts established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/246 concerning the investigation into the conditions and circumstances resulting in the tragic death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him (A/70/132); (iii) the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 71/260 (A/71/1042); (iv) the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/252 (A/73/973); and (v) the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/248 (A/76/892).

(b) To review and assess new records and information that may be provided:
(i) by Member States following the adoption of the draft resolution, including as a result of Member States' conduct of a dedicated internal review of their intelligence, security and defence archives; or (ii) by individuals and private entities;

(c) To follow up with Member States who may hold relevant information, including with officials appointed by Member States to conduct the review of their respective archives, as well as with such officials who have concluded their work. Such follow-up and further engagement would extend to individuals and private entities that may hold records related to the death of Dag Hammarskjöld and of the members of the party accompanying him;

(d) If necessary and appropriate, to interview witnesses, including expert witnesses;

(e) To produce a report, which would include the following items:

(i) A summary of, and any findings on, new information obtained since the conclusion of the work of the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution 74/248;

(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) As the Eminent Person may deem appropriate, new statements from witnesses who were interviewed and new information obtained, to be affixed as appendices;

(iv) An assessment of the findings, with a view to drawing conclusions from the investigations already conducted.

4. It is envisaged that the Eminent Person and his Special Assistant would be engaged as consultants for work not to exceed six work-months for the period from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024. In this regard, the Special Assistant would support the Eminent Person in the performance of his tasks as described in paragraph 3 above. In addition, to assist in the investigation, it is further envisioned that the Eminent Person would be supported by up to three consultants who would provide specialized expertise, including forensics, document analysis and document review and other technical assistance for up to 45 days. Travel may be undertaken by the Eminent Person and the Special Assistant to New York and Western Europe for further inquiry, investigation and follow-up with Member States, individuals and private entities, and by the consultants for local travel.

5. Furthermore, pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 7, for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, it is envisaged that the request for documentation would constitute an addition to the documentation workload of one pre-session document of 35,000 words to be issued in all six languages in 2024.

#### **IV.** Budgetary implications

6. The details of additional requirements are provided in table 1.

Table 1

#### **Resource requirements**

(United States dollars)

	Additional requirements 2023	Additional requirements 2024	Additional requirements 2023–2024
Section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination			
Consultants	103 800	116 200	220 000
Total, section 1	103 800	116 200	220 000
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management			
Other staff costs			
Documentation services		106 800	106 800
Total, section 2		106 800	106 800
Total	103 800	223 000	326 800

7. The requirements for 2024, in the amount of 223,000 (net of staff assessment), would be reflected under the following sections of the proposed programme budget for 2024:

(a) Section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination (\$116,200);

(b) Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management (\$106,800).

8. An additional amount of \$16,000 would be required in the proposed programme budget for 2024 under section 36, Staff assessment, and would require an additional

appropriation by the General Assembly, to be offset by an equivalent increase of \$16,000 under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

#### V. Potential for absorption during 2023

9. No provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for 2023 for the implementation of the mandate contained in the draft resolution. At this stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for 2023 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during 2023. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources, be provided through an additional appropriation for 2023.

#### VI. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/77/L.31, additional resource requirements in the amount of \$103,800 would arise under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for 2023. The amount of \$103,800 would require an additional appropriation for 2023 to be approved by the General Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.

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