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Proposed programme budget for 2020

**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/74/L.20](#)

**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 and 5 of draft resolution [A/74/L.20](#), the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to reappoint the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution [72/252](#) 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;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly before the end of its seventy-fifth session on progress made.

II. Relationship of the proposed requests to the programme plan and priorities for 2020 and to the proposed programme budget for 2020

2. The activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for 2020 ([A/74/6 \(Sect. 1\)](#)).



III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Pursuant to operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would reappoint the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution [72/252](#) 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](#)); and (iv) the Eminent Person appointed pursuant to General Assembly resolution [72/252](#) ([A/73/973](#));

(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 [72/252](#);

(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 2020 to 30 June 2021. 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, ballistic examination and other technical assistance for up to 45 days. Travel may be undertaken by the Eminent Person and the Special Assistant to New York, Africa and Western Europe for further inquiry, investigation and follow-up with Member States, and by the consultants for local travel.

5. Furthermore, pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 5, it is envisaged that the request for documentation would constitute an addition to the documentation workload for the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document of 35,000 words to be issued in all six languages in 2021.

IV. Financial implications of the proposals

6. In order to implement the requests contained in paragraphs 1 and 5 of the draft resolution, additional requirements in the amount of \$145,700 would arise under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for 2020. Additional resource requirements in the amount of \$207,300 would be included in the proposed programme budget for 2021 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, and under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management. The details of these additional requirements are provided in the table below.

Resource requirements

(United States dollars)

	<i>Resource requirements 2020</i>	<i>Resource requirements 2021</i>
Section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination		
Consultants	145 700	97 600
Total, section 1	145 700	97 600
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management		
Pre-session documentation		109 700
Total, section 2		109 700
Total	145 700	207 300

V. Potential for absorption during 2020

7. No provisions have been made in the proposed programme budget for 2020 for the implementation of the activities requested under operative paragraphs 1 and 5 of the draft resolution. It is not possible at present to identify activities within the sections concerned of the proposed programme budget for 2020 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during the year. It is therefore necessary that one-time resource requirements in the amount of \$145,700 be provided through an additional appropriation for 2020.

VI. Contingency fund

8. Under the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions [41/213](#) and [42/211](#), a contingency fund is established for each year to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget.

VII. Conclusion and action requested of the General Assembly

9. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution [A/74/L.20](#), additional resource requirements in the amount of \$145,700 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, would arise under the proposed programme budget for 2020. The amount of \$145,700 would require an additional appropriation for the programme budget for 2020 to be approved by the General Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.

10. Additional resource requirements in the amount of \$207,300 would be included in the proposed programme budget for 2021 under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, and under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management.
