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Part II

Political affairs

Section 3

Political affairs

Programme 2

Political affairs

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*** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution 72/266 A, the part consisting of the programme plan and programme performance information is submitted through the Committee for Programme and Coordination for the consideration of the General Assembly.

**** In keeping with paragraph 11 of resolution 72/266 A, the part consisting of the post and non-post resource requirements is submitted through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly.



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I. Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs



Foreword

Recent global developments have further underscored the importance of the mandate of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs in conflict prevention, peacemaking and sustaining peace. The number of violent conflicts around the world, which had declined consistently over the years, is now on the upsurge, with dire implications for civilian populations. Hard-earned governance gains are being put at risk, and the space for inclusive politics in many situations has shrunk, creating an environment for instability.

If we are to successfully respond to these complex global trends, we need coordinated global responses. In particular, multilateral diplomatic action to prevent conflict and sustain peace – two central goals of the Department – remains more essential than ever.

Our experience shows that peacemaking and peacebuilding can make tangible contributions to promoting durable peace. I have seen it at first hand in my work. When I visited Somalia in 2018 and again in 2019, I saw the work carried out by the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia, under challenging security conditions, to support the aspirations of the Somali people for the country's first ever one-person, one-vote elections in 2020/2021. I witnessed our contributions in Colombia, where I visited a project backed by the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia to reintegrate former combatants of the country's 50-year war. And on the shores of Lake Prespa, I saw the concrete results of our work in helping to facilitate an agreement between Athens and Skopje that led to the resolution of the difference between them, and which was reported by the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council and the President of the General Assembly.

As we head towards 2020, the Secretary-General's ambitious reform of the peace and security pillar will enter its second year. The creation of a single regional political-operational structure in the peace and security pillar and the combination of the strategic, political and operational responsibilities of the former Department of Political Affairs with the peacebuilding portfolio and expertise of the Peacebuilding Support Office are already bearing fruit. We are now able to address the entire spectrum of the peace and security work of the United Nations, from conflict prevention to conflict resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, in a more coordinated and coherent way.

The primacy of political solutions is at the core of the Department's mission. This imperative guides the Department as it forges the United Nations response to some of the world's most pressing political crises. With the regional and thematic expertise the Department has developed over the years, and a rich network of field presences, I am certain that it can make a significant contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security in the year ahead.

(Signed) Rosemary A. DiCarlo
Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

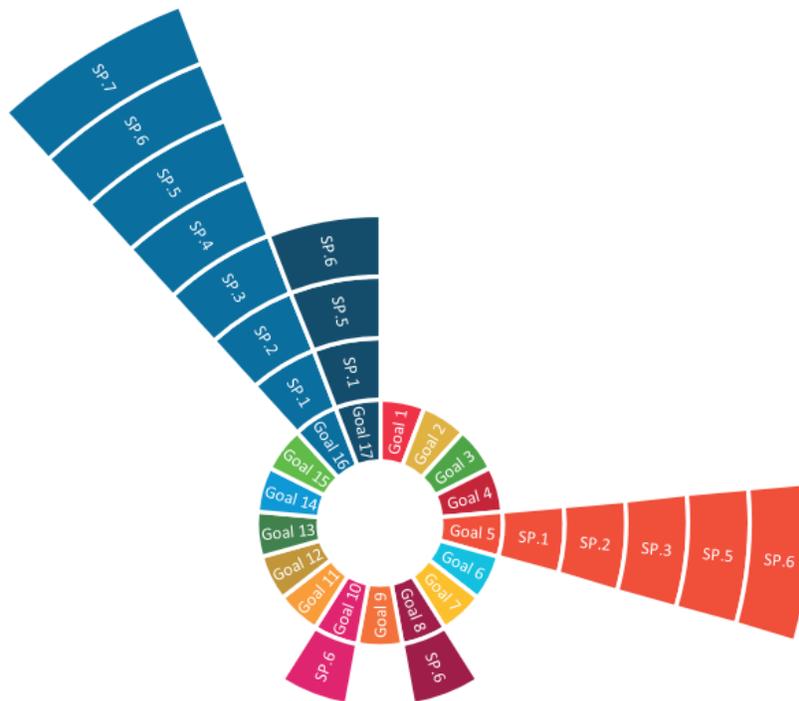
- 3.1 The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs is responsible for all Secretariat matters related to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts at the global level. The Department is the lead entity of the United Nations for good offices, political analysis, mediation, electoral assistance, peacebuilding support and political guidance as they relate to the Organization's efforts towards, inter alia, preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The Department oversees the work of special political missions, including special envoys and regional offices. It also provides support to peacekeeping operations in the areas of mediation, electoral assistance and peacebuilding, as well as to resident coordinators working in complex political situations. It provides substantive support and secretariat services to the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies, as well as to relevant subsidiary organs of the General Assembly, including the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People. The Department also provides strategic, substantive and technical support to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, manages the Peacebuilding Fund on behalf of the Secretary-General and draws together the expertise of the United Nations system to facilitate coherent system-wide action in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace.
- 3.2 The mandate derives from the Charter of the United Nations and the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including resolution [46/232](#), in which the Assembly established the Department of Political Affairs, and more recently resolution [72/262 C](#), in which the Assembly established the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. The proliferation of the number and intensity of conflicts over the past few years and their immense human and material cost confirms the importance of conflict prevention and resolution through inclusive political solutions.

Alignment with the Charter of the United Nations, the Sustainable Development Goals and other transformative agendas

- 3.3 The mandates of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs guide the subprogrammes in producing their respective deliverables, which contribute to the attainment of each subprogramme's objective. The objectives of the subprogrammes are aligned with the Organization's purpose to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purposes stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter are embodied by the Sustainable Development Goals. Figure 3.I below summarizes the specific Sustainable Development Goals with which the objectives, and therefore the deliverables, of the respective subprogrammes are aligned.

Figure 3.I

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs: alignment of subprogrammes with Sustainable Development Goals



- 3.4 The objectives of the subprogrammes are also aligned with the following transformative agendas: the sustaining peace agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#) and General Assembly resolution [70/262](#); the women and peace and security agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#); and the youth and peace and security agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#).

Recent developments

- 3.5 In the course of 2018, several trends were observed. For example, conflicts were more regional in nature, with one conflict often spilling over into another. For example, many conflict situations in the Middle East can be characterized by the amalgamation of several interconnected conflicts, with humanitarian consequences far beyond the region itself. The conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic has now reached its eighth year and continues to pose significant threats to regional stability. In Asia, the world witnessed one of the fastest growing refugee crises, in Myanmar, which spilled over into neighbouring States following the violence of August 2017 in Rakhine State. In Africa, continued violence in Somalia and Libya highlighted the need for sustained cooperation among regional partners in support of political processes in those countries.
- 3.6 At the same time, 2018 also saw significant shifts in regional political dynamics, with implications for international peace and security. For example, the rapprochement between Ethiopia and Eritrea in July 2018 ended the military standoff lasting two decades between the two countries and is redefining the whole regional dynamic within the Horn of Africa. Similarly, in June 2018, Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia signed a historic agreement to resolve the long-standing dispute on the name of the latter country, following mediation. In Yemen, the United Nations-led talks resulted in the signing of a ceasefire agreement in Hudaydah in December 2018, which has created hope for alleviating the humanitarian crisis in the region.

- 3.7 Security threats are increasingly cross-border in nature, such as transnational crime and drug trafficking, requiring a regional response. Furthermore, the rise in violent extremism in the past few years has highlighted the need for more inclusive political processes as well as regional cooperation. While Iraq and its partners successfully completed operations against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in 2018, continued threats of terrorism in areas such as the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin or in countries such as Afghanistan, Libya, Somalia, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen further complicate the operating environment for many political presences in the field.
- 3.8 Elections, if not inclusive and peaceful, continue to serve as a trigger for instability. In 2018, around 70 national elections and referendums were held across the globe, to 18 of which the United Nations provided technical support. In Madagascar, the coordinated engagement of the United Nations and the international community was instrumental in supporting the electoral institutions and facilitated the acceptance of the presidential election results. In Iraq, the United Nations supported electoral preparations for the national legislative elections and provided advice as the Independent High Electoral Commission completed a manual recount, data entry and tabulation of the results.
- 3.9 More generally, poor governance, exclusion and unequal access to economic opportunities continue to fuel discontent among specific groups across different parts of the world, underscoring the need for dialogue to preserve stability and sustain peace through more inclusive politics.

Strategy and external factors for 2020

- 3.10 The Department's core strategy is to support the pacific settlement of disputes, under Chapter VI of the Charter, through the use of the tools of preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacebuilding. In utilizing those tools, the Department works in close cooperation with a wide array of actors, including under Chapter VIII of the Charter, in particular regional and subregional organizations. The Department's strategy embodies the recognition that political solutions are a key requirement for durable peace.
- 3.11 The Department will take into account the evolving nature of conflicts, including the emergence of new threats, in formulating specific strategies, particularly comprehensive regional strategies, to prevent conflict and sustain peace. Given its global mandate for conflict prevention and peacemaking, the Department will play a lead role within the United Nations in formulating and implementing comprehensive regional strategies that address cross-boundary issues, in cooperation with regional and subregional organizations.
- 3.12 In order to achieve these goals, the Department will rely on its expertise at Headquarters as well as its network of field presences, particularly special political missions, including regional offices, and liaison presences with regional and other organizations.
- 3.13 The Department expects to contribute more effectively to its planned results for 2020 through the implementation of the Secretary-General's prevention and sustaining peace agendas and increased deployment of its peacemaking, peacebuilding and conflict prevention tools. Through its participation in the Standing Principals' Group of the Under-Secretaries-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and for Peace Operations, under the chairmanship of Secretary-General, the Department will ensure strategic coordination in the peace and security pillar. In addition, the Department will achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the formulation of comprehensive regional strategies through the "whole of pillar" approach envisaged as part of the reform of the United Nations peace and security architecture. In particular, for subprogramme 1, the reform initiative established a single political-operational regional structure, shared by the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations, which will enable better transition planning, for example in the drawdown of peacekeeping operations, by integrating political and operational responsibilities. Furthermore, the integration of the Peacebuilding Support Office into a unified and coherent Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs will further strengthen the interaction between the Department and the single political-operational structure on

the one hand, and the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund on the other. This will be of particular benefit in transition settings.

- 3.14 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2020 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Unity among Member States, in particular the Security Council, including in critical situations in which the United Nations is engaged;
 - (b) Existence of entry points for United Nations engagement to mitigate tensions and prevent conflict;
 - (c) Commitment of the parties to a conflict to engage in a process towards the peaceful settlement of disputes.
- 3.15 The Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. Under the United Nations strategic framework on women and peace and security for the period 2011–2020, the Department has committed to 15 deliverables related to women and peace and security to be realized by the end of 2020, including in the areas of women’s participation in conflict resolution and prevention, preventing and assessing conflict-related sexual violence, women’s political participation and post-conflict planning and financing. For example, for subprogramme 2, Electoral assistance, the result reflects the fact that gender is systematically mainstreamed in all United Nations electoral assistance activities. All needs assessment mission reports in 2018 included gender analysis and gender-specific recommendations. In addition, under subprogramme 2, three specific training events on gender and elections were organized for different regional organizations and their respective member States in 2018. These types of gender-specific regional initiatives will also continue to be on the agenda of the Department in 2020.
- 3.16 With regard to cooperation with other entities, under Chapter VIII of the Charter, the Department, through its special political missions and its liaison offices, continues to strengthen partnerships with regional and other organizations in the field of peace and security. Under the framework of United Nations-World Bank Partnership Framework for Crisis-Affected Situations, the Department also works to strengthen partnerships with the World Bank and other international financial institutions to make international engagement in crisis-affected situations more coherent, effective and sustainable. The Department is also expanding its partnerships with other relevant actors, including civil society, in particular in support of women and young people.
- 3.17 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, the Department will continue to participate in the Executive Committee established by the Secretary-General both through the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and, in recognition of the role and responsibility of the Peacebuilding Support Office to facilitate cross-pillar coherence, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support. The Department also chairs a number of inter-agency task forces to coordinate and increase the coherence of United Nations system engagement in specific countries or regions, as well as various thematic inter-agency mechanisms. The Peacebuilding Fund, by nature a cross-pillar tool of financial support, will continue to work with and through agencies, funds and programmes in-country and at Headquarters.

Evaluation activities

- 3.18 The following evaluations and self-evaluations completed in 2018 have guided the programme plan for 2020:
- (a) Self-evaluations: (i) evaluation through perception surveys of sustaining peace initiatives, which helped to understand the benefits and challenges of trying a new initiative in different country contexts; and (ii) an evaluation of the Department’s gender training and women and peace and security training, a flagship effort ongoing since 2011;

- (b) Joint evaluations: an external midterm evaluation conducted to review the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)-Department of Political Affairs Joint Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention to support programme improvements during its second phase;
 - (c) Portfolio of evaluations commissioned by the Peacebuilding Support Office: external evaluations of projects financed by the Peacebuilding Fund and undertaken by implementing partners in Guatemala, Madagascar, the Niger and Papua New Guinea. Furthermore, an evaluation on Sri Lanka was undertaken and completed by the resident programme managers.
- 3.19 The findings of the evaluations and self-evaluations referenced in paragraph 3.18 (a) and (b) above have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2020 of subprogramme 1, Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. The findings of the evaluations referenced in paragraph 3.18 (c) above have been taken into account for the programme plan for 2020 of subprogramme 6, Peacebuilding Support Office.
- 3.20 A self-evaluation, the scope and area of which have yet to be determined, is planned for 2020.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018

Programme of work



Subprogramme 1

Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts

1. Objective

- 3.21 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts by peaceful means.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.22 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 5, which is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere; ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life; and adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.
- 3.23 The objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere; strengthen relevant national institutions; and ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
- 3.24 Finally, the objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 17, which is to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Madagascar: various tools combined towards conflict prevention

In 2018, the Department responded to over 90 country situations, using a combination of early warning, integrated analysis, good offices and electoral and mediation assistance in support of efforts by Member States to prevent violent conflicts and consolidate peace. One such example in 2018 was Madagascar, where the Department engaged actively throughout the course of the year, in close coordination with the resident coordinator and the United Nations country team, to help to defuse tensions ahead of the 2018 presidential elections.

Ahead of the 2018 elections and at the request of the Government, in March, the Department deployed the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union, Haile Menkerios, to Madagascar, along with staff from subprogramme 2, to engage with key stakeholders to help to create an environment conducive to inclusive, credible, transparent and peaceful presidential and legislative elections. Despite those efforts, the adoption in April of the draft electoral law by the Parliament led to political confrontation and violence during an opposition protest, resulting in the loss of at least two lives and several injuries. While the decision by the High Constitutional Court on 3 May, informed by the analysis and recommendations provided by, among others, the United Nations, to remove provisions from the draft electoral law that do not comply with the country's Constitution and international treaties helped to defuse heightened political tensions, it demonstrated the need for continued international and regional engagement to promote dialogue among the political stakeholders in Madagascar.



Special Adviser Abdoulaye Bathily greeted by the interim President of Madagascar, Rivo Rakotovoao. Source: United Nations Photo

In late April, to avert the further escalation of violence, and following recommendations from the Department, the Secretary-General appointed a Special Adviser on Madagascar, Abdoulaye Bathily, tasked with working closely with the African Union and the Southern African Development Community in advancing dialogue among the stakeholders, providing good offices and engaging the main political actors and institutions. Through intense shuttle diplomacy, the envoys conveyed coordinated messages and adopted a common position for peaceful and credible elections, as well as for the respect of constitutional rule. The envoys emphasized the need for any political agreement to create a peaceful environment for elections, strictly in accordance with the Constitution.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is the opening of space for dialogue between the main political actors to define the framework for a Malagasy-led agreement.

Evidence of the result includes a reduction in tensions and Malagasy-led dialogue that resulted in the formation of a consensus Government, paving the way for the 2018 presidential election. On 11 June 2018, an inclusive Government was formed, following the consensual nomination of a new Prime Minister and Government. The announcement by the Government of the dates of a presidential election (7 November and 19 December run-off) marked an important step in averting a constitutional crisis. The first round was largely peaceful and orderly. The second-round run-off, contested between two well-known former Presidents, also took place largely peacefully, but the provisional results became subject to significant partisan challenges. The collective efforts of the international community led to the continuation of peace and security in the tense post-electoral situation.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.25 A planned result for 2018, which is improved capacity and capability of Member States to identify, prevent and address conflict situations, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the

biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the number of good offices efforts to address conflict situations in which the United Nations was asked to assist (58 actual compared with a target of 52 for the biennium). The continued demand by Member States, regional organizations and other actors for the Department's support in conflict prevention and resolution demonstrates the understanding by those actors that the Organization's support can help to defuse conflict situations.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Comprehensive regional strategies

In 2018 and in previous years, Member States were kept abreast of risks to peace and security and progress in peacebuilding and sustaining peace through two different offices, the Department of Political Affairs and the Peacebuilding Support Office. While the two entities coordinated closely to develop options and recommendations for preventive engagements and to sustain peace, there was scope to strengthen coherence and common approaches in support of the same country situation. In addition, two separate departments – the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations – were responsible for providing political and operational backstopping to United Nations field engagements in the area of peace and security, with the Department of Political Affairs responsible for conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding, including backstopping for special political missions, and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations responsible for the backstopping of peacekeeping operations. This structure did not contribute to synergies and coherence in the implementation of the Organization's peace and security mandates.

Challenge and response

The challenge was to integrate the distinct and complementary expertise of the Department of Political Affairs in conflict prevention and peacemaking, including in devising comprehensive political strategies, and that of the Peacebuilding Support Office in enhancing coherence and partnerships in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace, as well as the role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in managing peacekeeping operations.

In response, starting in 2019 and continuing in 2020, the new peace and security architecture approved by the General Assembly in 2018 and put into effect on 1 January 2019 established the new Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, which combines the strategic, political and operational responsibilities of the former Department of Political Affairs and the peacebuilding responsibilities of the Peacebuilding Support Office. Furthermore, as part of the new peace and security architecture, the Department shares a regional political-operational structure with the Department of Peace Operations. The regional structure is the primary medium for the delivery of the Secretariat's efforts to prevent conflict, sustain peace, manage peace operations and develop and implement regional political strategies. Ultimately, this new structure will strengthen collaboration between the two Departments and ensure a holistic approach across the entire range of political and operational engagements on peace and security issues.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is more effective conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding engagements at the regional level.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the implementation of more comprehensive regional strategies that help to harmonize the actions of a wide range of actors operating in the same region, including Member States, regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions and non-governmental organizations. Greater unity of action among these actors would lead to more effective conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding engagements by the international community in these respective regions. Harmonization of action among external actors also presupposes greater coherence among various United Nations actors operating in the same region, special political missions, peacekeeping operations and agencies, funds and programmes, as well as greater consistency and coherence between political objectives and programming decisions in response to an increasingly diverse and complex range of conflict triggers and situations. Evidence will also include stronger and more comprehensive regional strategies, increased coherence across the conflict prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding engagements of multiple actors and greater integration between political analysis and programmatic decisions by such actors, as shown in the table.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>
Endorsement of the reform proposal by the General Assembly and transitional steps towards implementation of new structures	Discussions by external actors, such as regional and subregional organizations, with United Nations entities on comprehensive regional strategies for a number of regions or subregions	Initial implementation of comprehensive regional strategies formulated in 2019, leading to greater harmonization of action by regional and subregional organizations and other stakeholders

3.26 The following provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolutions comprise the main mandates entrusted to the subprogramme: Article 99 of the Charter, resolution [46/232](#), in which the Assembly established the Department of Political Affairs, and resolution [72/262 C](#), in which the Assembly established the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.27 Table 3.1 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.1

Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	48	70	47	70
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	46	113	47	104
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	139	195	140	195
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Good offices				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				
Databases and substantive digital materials				
D. Communication deliverables				
External and media relations				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variances between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.28 The variance in parliamentary documentation was driven mainly by the issuance of reports of the Secretary-General on matters related to peace and security for the Security Council, owing to the additional reporting obligations mandated by the Council.
- 3.29 The variance in substantive services for meetings was driven mainly by the holding of meetings and/or informal consultations of the Security Council and its subsidiary organs, owing to a larger than estimated number of informal consultations of the Council and its subsidiary organs.
- 3.30 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events was driven by the holding of seminars, training events and academic meetings on advancing preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacebuilding, owing to increased requests by Member States for support.

Variances between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

- 3.31 The variance in parliamentary documentation is driven mainly by the anticipated issuance of reports of the Secretary-General on matters related to peace and security for the Security Council, owing to the adjustment to the planned number for 2020 on the basis of recent actual experience.
- 3.32 The variance in substantive services for meetings is driven mainly by the anticipated holding of meetings and/or informal consultations of the Security Council and its subsidiary organs, owing to the adjustment to the planned number for 2020 on the basis of recent actual experience.
- 3.33 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events is driven by the anticipated holding of seminars, training events and academic meetings on advancing preventive diplomacy, peacemaking and peacebuilding, owing to the adjustment to the planned number for 2020 on the basis of recent actual experience.



Subprogramme 2 Electoral assistance

1. Objective

- 3.34 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen the existing capacity of requesting Member States to organize and conduct periodic, inclusive, peaceful and genuine elections.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.35 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 5, which is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life; and to adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.
- 3.36 The objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels; to develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels; and to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Eighteen peaceful elections with United Nations support across the world

In 2018, the subprogramme continued to coordinate electoral assistance to over 50 Member States and took new key steps in enhancing partnerships and capacity development support to partner with regional organizations. The subprogramme also developed new internal system-wide electoral policies aimed at further enhancing coordination and coherence among United Nations entities in the provision of electoral support to Member States. Over 90 electoral missions were conducted in various parts of the world in 2018, including needs assessment missions and other types of technical and advisory missions.

In Iraq, in line with the United Nations mandate and as agreed with national authorities, an assessment mission was conducted in March 2018. The mission developed detailed technical recommendations for the leadership of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq as well as national and international interlocutors on how



*Ballot boxes are loaded onto a United Nations helicopter for transportation.
Source: Martine Perret*

best to support the electoral process. Areas of assistance were focused on the legal framework, the pre-electoral political and security environment, the participation of internally displaced persons in the elections, a dispute resolution mechanism and electoral software development and testing. Despite compressed timelines, the Independent High Electoral Commission, with scaled up support from the United Nations, delivered on most operational and logistical arrangements, including measures to allow internally displaced persons to vote. The parliamentary elections were held on 12 May 2018 as planned and proceeded without any major incidents. The United Nations also supported a partial manual recount process. The recount confirmed the original electronic count, enhancing public confidence in the electoral process. In Nigeria, at the request of the Government, a needs assessment mission deployed in January 2018 recommended the provision of electoral assistance in the areas of promotion of the participation of women and underrepresented groups in the electoral process, capacity development of the electoral institutions and support to police in electoral security training in preparation for the 2019 elections. The Independent National Electoral Commission of Nigeria also attended the regional workshop on preventing violence around elections organized by the United Nations in partnership with the Economic Community of West African States Commission in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in August 2018.

The subprogramme also provided capacity development support to a number of regional organizations. In 2018, in partnership with the secretariats of three partner regional organizations, namely the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the subprogramme organized three training events on gender and elections, on preventing electoral violence and on election observation. A total of 110 participants from around 40 Member States and from the secretariats of various partner regional organizations attended these training events.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is the uptake of technical assistance, including in electoral crisis management situations, and capacity development of over 50 recipient Member States and five regional organizations in improving electoral processes and institutions. The deliverables also contributed to the conduct of 18 elections in various parts of the world during the reporting period, which were assessed by national and international observers as having been conducted in a peaceful and overall orderly manner.

Evidence of the result includes feedback from Member States and regional organizations, which confirm the usefulness of the assistance in enhancing electoral capacities of the Member States and regional organizations that have received United Nations electoral assistance. For instance, the Prime Minister of Armenia wrote a letter to the Secretary-General expressing appreciation for United Nations electoral support for the peaceful conduct of the early parliamentary elections in December 2018. Elections Cameroon (ELECAM) wrote a letter to the United Nations expressing gratitude to the Organization for the “technical and moral assistance provided to the ELECAM in the conduct of the electoral process and in particular the organization of the October 2018 presidential elections”. Also, in a letter to the Secretary-General, the Government of France expressed its appreciation for the deployment of two groups of United Nations electoral experts to, respectively, accompany the updating of the voter rolls from March to August 2018 and follow the 2018 referendum in New Caledonia (France). Furthermore, the Assistant Secretary-General of the CARICOM secretariat wrote to the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs expressing appreciation for the electoral training the Department had conducted for Member States in the CARICOM region in December 2018 and indicating that the training “was a great success in building the capacity of the officials of the election management bodies in member States of the CARICOM secretariat”.

Evidence of the result also includes reports from election observation missions conducted by regional organizations as well as by national and international non-governmental organizations. In many cases, these reports had a positive assessment of the technical capacity of the election management bodies in the countries that conducted elections in 2018 with technical support from the United Nations.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

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- 3.37 A planned result for 2018, which is enhanced capacity of Member States requesting electoral assistance to strengthen their democratic processes and develop, improve and refine their electoral institutions and processes, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the increased percentage of cases (94 per cent, representing

one percentage point increase from 93 per cent in 2016–2017) where electoral needs assessments and other electoral missions were undertaken in response to requests from Member States within four weeks of the approval of the mission deployment by the United Nations Focal Point for Electoral Assistance.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Increased capacity of Member States in conducting peaceful, inclusive and genuine elections

In 2018, requests for United Nations electoral support remained high. Electoral assistance continued to be designed to complement United Nations efforts in support of peaceful transitions, democratic governance, the rule of law, human rights and gender equality.

Challenge and response

The challenge was that, while most of the elections were conducted peacefully, there were cases in which electoral violence was a concern.

In response, for 2020, the United Nations will take further steps in combining technical support with political and good offices measures, particularly in electoral crisis situations. This is an area that will require additional attention and support from the United Nations. Therefore, in addition to its planned technical support to Member States in 2020, the subprogramme will provide senior technical electoral expertise to good offices efforts in electoral crisis situations, as required and in a timely manner. The subprogramme will coordinate electoral support to approximately 50 Member States during 2020 and expand its electoral partnership and capacity development support to regional and intergovernmental organizations, including in the area of prevention of electoral violence. The subprogramme will also develop and implement a number of new United Nations system-wide electoral policies, while continuing to mainstream gender in all United Nations electoral assistance activities.

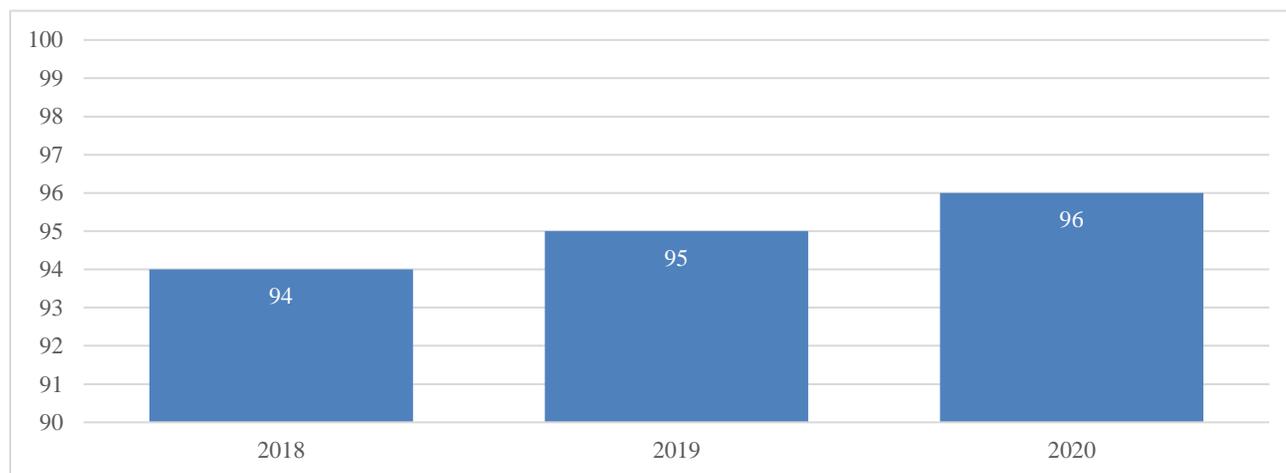
Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is increased capacities for Member States that have requested United Nations electoral assistance, as well as regional organizations, in supporting the conduct of peaceful, inclusive and genuine elections, thus also preventing and mitigating electoral violence before, during and after an electoral process.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include recognition by Member States that have received assistance of the usefulness of such support in enhancing their capacities to conduct peaceful, inclusive and genuine elections, and the implementation of local initiatives by Member States for preventing electoral violence. It will also include reports from national and international observation groups, which usually reflect key findings on various aspects of the electoral processes they observe. The evidence will also include the percentage of national electoral processes receiving support within the specific time frame, assuming that host authorities and other relevant stakeholders concur with the deployment of missions and the timing of visits, as shown in the figure.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures: percentage of cases in which Member States receive an electoral assistance mission within four weeks of approval by the United Nations Focal Point for Electoral Assistance



3.38 The following General Assembly resolution comprises the main mandate entrusted to the subprogramme: resolution [72/164](#) on strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization. The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.39 Table 3.2 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.2

Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 planned	2018 actual	2019 planned	2020 planned
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	–	–	1	–
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	–	–	1	–
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	16	26	16	26
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	19	19	19	19
Technical materials (number of materials)	5	6	5	5
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				
Databases and substantive digital materials				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variances between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.40 The variance in field and technical cooperation projects was driven by projects on electoral assistance for Member States, owing to the implementation of a number of new capacity development projects in support of elections for Member States at their request.
- 3.41 The variance in technical materials was driven by the issuance of technical guidelines and reference materials on electoral processes, the electoral legal framework and the organization and administration of elections, owing to the need to provide new policy-related documents on certain emerging electoral issues.

Variances between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

- 3.42 The variance in parliamentary documentation is driven by the issuance in 2019 but not in 2020 of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization, owing to its biennial nature.
- 3.43 The variance in substantive services for meetings is driven by the holding of the meeting of the plenary of the General Assembly in 2019, owing to the Assembly's request to be briefed on the strengthening of the role of the United Nations in enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization, in connection with the biennial report of the Secretary-General.
- 3.44 The variance in field and technical cooperation projects is driven by projects on electoral assistance for Member States, owing to the high number of long-term capacity-building projects that will continue into 2020 and also a number of new requests expected from Member States in 2020.



Subprogramme 3 Security Council affairs

1. Objective

- 3.45 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure the effective deliberations and decision-making by the Security Council and its subsidiary organs.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.46 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 5, which is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere; eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation; and ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making.
- 3.47 The objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to reduce all forms of violence; significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows; ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels; and strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Availability of quality information to the Security Council in support of the maintenance of international peace and security

In 2018, the Security Council held a total of 288 meetings and 120 closed consultations and issued 202 outcome decisions in carrying out its critical responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security. Underpinning the Council's activities is the substantive and secretariat support provided by the subprogramme on three complementary but distinct areas, namely, Council secretariat services; support to the Council's subsidiary bodies, including sanctions committees; and the provision of advisory research on the Council's practice and procedure.

Throughout the course of 2018, the subprogramme provided substantive support and procedural guidance to the Security Council, ensuring effective support to incoming Council presidencies and management of the Council's programme of work, resulting in the issuance of 1,183 Council documents, the holding of 288 Council meetings and the adoption of 54 resolutions. The subprogramme also undertook a comprehensive capacity-building approach to improve services to Council members, including through the induction training for elected members



Security Council renews the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, 21 December 2018. Source: United Nations Photo

of the Council launched in 2016. Responding to calls from Member States and stakeholders, it also worked to integrate United Nations sanctions into the broader peace and security architecture by increasing training on United Nations sanctions. Five focused seminars and training workshops were held, outlining the design, evolution and implementation of United Nations sanctions and raising awareness and building capacity among participants on the use of sanctions.

The subprogramme further improved the timeliness of issuance of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*, the only official coverage of the Security Council's interpretation and application of the Charter of the United Nations and the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council. The twentieth Supplement (2016–2017) was made available in its advance form on the Security Council website by the fourth quarter of 2018 – the closest to contemporary coverage of the Council's practice achieved in the *Repertoire's* 66-year history – and improved the Department's capacity to produce tailored technical guidance. There was an eightfold increase between 2016 and 2018 in the delivery of specialized technical research, 75 per cent of which was requested by Member States, including Council members.

Furthermore, in an effort to mainstream gender in the context of Security Council proceedings, the subprogramme collected data disaggregated by sex for permanent and deputy permanent representatives of Council members, as well as members of the Secretariat and others invited by the Council. These data included information on civil society briefers and on the participation of women briefers in Council proceedings, in line with target 5.5 of the Sustainable Development Goals, on ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life. In addition, Security Council decisions incorporating language on women and peace and security were captured to report on the mainstreaming by the Council of the women and peace and security agenda.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is more timely and informed decision-making by the Security Council and its subsidiary organs.

Evidence of the result includes the positive feedback received from the monthly Council presidency highlighting the effective support provided to the presidency of the Council by the subprogramme. For example, one participant of the induction workshop organized by the Department in 2018 expressed appreciation for the presentations and noted the volume of “valuable information, practice and knowledge for incoming Security Council members provided”.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective

- 3.48 A planned result for 2018, which is improved organizational and procedural aspects of meetings servicing as well enhanced substantive and technical secretariat support to the Member States and other participants at the mandated meetings, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was partially achieved, as evidenced by the increased degree of satisfaction expressed by members of the Security Council, as well as the wider United Nations membership, with the services provided by the subprogramme, as demonstrated by survey responses (99 per cent of responses were rated as satisfactory or higher, compared with a target of 100 per cent).

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

First port of call on all Security Council matters for Council members and beyond

In 2018, as the work of the Security Council continued to intensify, there was increasing demand from the Council for research support and procedural advice provided by the Security Council Affairs Division. It is against this backdrop that the Division has had to adapt and evolve in its role as secretariat of the Security Council and maintain its primacy as the repository of Council practice and the centre of excellence to guide and support the Council, the wider United Nations membership and the senior United Nations leadership.

Challenge and response

The challenge was to ensure the timely delivery of such advice to Security Council members, including new members, to support their deliberations and to improve the systems infrastructure in helping respond to an increasing number of queries from Council members relating to past practice.

In response, for 2020, the subprogramme will further improve its ability to provide Security Council members with the support they need as first port of call on all matters related to the Council. Among the intended primary beneficiaries of this will be incoming Council members, whose capacity to effectively discharge their responsibilities on the Council will be enhanced through tailored and targeted inductions and training, including on the implementation of United Nations sanctions; the entire membership of the Council, who will receive timely substantive and procedural guidance and advice based on in-depth research and analysis of past Security Council practice and the application of the provisional rules of procedure; and the wider United Nations membership, the senior United Nations leadership and the public, who will benefit from more widely accessible analysis and data on Internet-based platforms, such as the iSCAD+ database and the revamped website.

The subprogramme will launch a number of initiatives and other ongoing tailored capacity-building programmes. These will include a series of integrated information management projects, foremost iSCAD+, which will form part of the Division’s strategic communications approach to enhance the Department’s accuracy and responsiveness in answering Council members’ substantive and procedural queries in real time. iSCAD+ is a unified front-end portal that is accessible from mobile devices and integrated with the revamped Security Council website and aims to enhance existing information products to service Council needs. The platforms will support secure collaboration, timely information exchange between Member States and within the Secretariat, and access by Member States to information on meetings, documentation and historical records and new reporting modalities and visualization capacities. They will provide information to the public and will showcase the work of the Security Council in maintaining international peace and security.

The subprogramme will further refine the induction and training initiatives to better respond to the needs of the incoming Council members as they build their grasp of the complexity of the Council’s tasks and working methods. The subprogramme will also launch a series of sanctions seminars and training initiatives to encourage the implementation of United Nations sanctions and to improve the understanding and knowledge of practitioners, both within and outside the United Nations system, on the United Nations sanctions architecture.

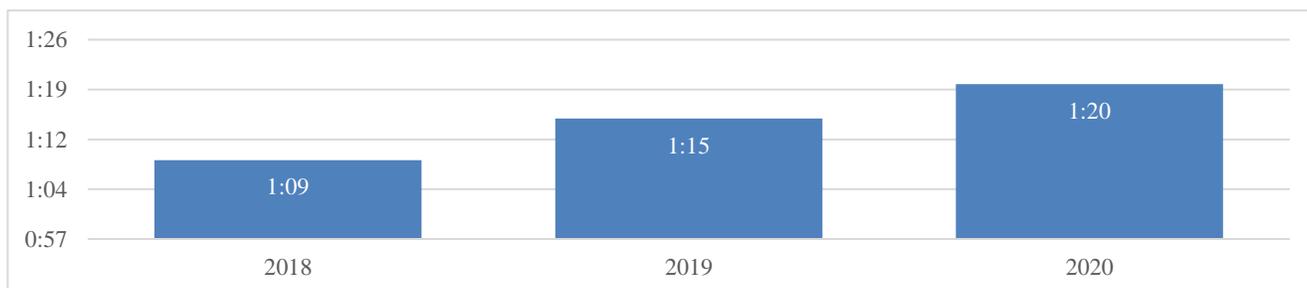
Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is an overall improved understanding and a greater awareness of the Council’s procedures and work by Member States.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the qualitative data analysis of the increased engagement on the Security Council website, as demonstrated by an increase in the time spent on the website, as shown in the figure.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures: engagement time on the Security Council website (minutes)



3.49 The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

- 3.50 Table 3.3 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.3

Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 planned	2018 actual	2019 planned	2020 planned
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	55	55	55	55
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	500	607	510	510
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	5	5	6	6
Publications (number of publications)	1	2	1	2
Technical materials (number of materials)	5	115	5	104
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				
Databases and substantive digital materials				
D. Communication deliverables				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variances between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.51 The variance in substantive services for meetings was driven by the meetings of the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies and related deliberations, owing to the request for more meetings than planned and the unpredictability of the Council's work.
- 3.52 The variance in publications was driven by the issuance of the volume of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*, owing to the fact that it was not included as a planned deliverable in the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2018–2019.
- 3.53 The variance in technical materials was driven mainly by tailored research for Member States on Security Council practice and procedures, current and historic, owing to the fact that it was not included as a planned deliverable in the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2018–2019.

Variances between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

- 3.54 The variance in publications is driven by the issuance of the volume of *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council*, owing to the fact that it was not included as a planned deliverable in the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2018–2019.
- 3.55 The variance in technical materials is driven mainly by tailored research for Member States on Security Council practice and procedures, current and historic, owing to the fact that it was not included as a planned deliverable in the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2018–2019.



Subprogramme 4 Decolonization

1. Objective

- 3.56 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance the decolonization process of the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to bring about the complete eradication of colonialism.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.57 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Amendments to resolutions in 2018 to reflect current conditions in Territories

In 2018, the Decolonization Unit prepared three reports of the Secretary-General, 17 working papers on the Non-Self-Governing Territories and a report of the President of the Economic and Social Council, which included information on the devastating impact of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on some of the Territories; provided substantive support in the organization and holding of the Pacific regional seminar; and supported the visiting mission dispatched by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to New Caledonia, including through the provision of substantive support, political advice and logistical assistance. All of the above resulted in information about political, economic and social developments related to the Territories being made available to the Special Committee for examination.



*The British Virgin Islands were devastated by the passage of Hurricane Irma, a category five storm and the most powerful hurricane ever recorded in the Atlantic. Weeks later, the islands were again battered by Hurricane Maria.
Source: Loop News*

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is the enhanced understanding of the Special Committee of the situation in the Territories. Evidence of the result includes the amendments introduced to the resolutions considered and adopted by the Committee during its substantive session held in June.

Relevant updates to resolutions considered and adopted by the Special Committee included constitutional and political developments (for example, in American Samoa, Guam, French Polynesia and New Caledonia), socioeconomic conditions (for example, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Saint Helena and Tokelau) and the devastating impact of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria in Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Turks and

Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands. In the case of those Territories affected by the 2017 hurricane season, on the basis of information provided in the working papers prepared by the Secretariat and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council containing information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities in the Territories, the Special Committee introduced new language by which the General Assembly called upon the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations to provide all the assistance necessary to the Territory, support the recovery and rebuilding efforts and enhance capabilities for emergency preparedness and risk reduction, in particular in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria that impacted the Territory in 2017 (draft resolutions [A/AC.109/2018/L.11](#), [A/AC.109/2018/L.14](#), [A/AC.109/2018/L.20](#) and [A/AC.109/2018/L.21](#)).

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.58 A planned result for 2018, which is the Special Committee and the General Assembly will be able to carry out their decolonization mandates and make progress in the decolonization process of the 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the timely submission of 100 per cent of parliamentary documents and the sustained level of support to the work of the Special Committee in facilitating communication with the administering Powers.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Enhanced dissemination of information

In 2018, the United Nations website on decolonization, although updated regularly, remained limited in terms of the information contained therein and language availability, as well as its capabilities and functionality on an outdated platform. In an endeavour to intensify efforts to continue to implement the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the subprogramme started to implement a major project to revamp the website.

Challenge and response

The challenge was the content, capabilities, functionality, proper maintenance and comprehensive update of the current website, which the revamp of the website aims to address.

In response, for 2020, the new website will be available in the six official languages of the United Nations and will feature more comprehensive data on a modern, user-friendly platform, which will also contribute to improving efficiency and cooperation with the Department of Global Communications in the implementation of the mandate of the subprogramme on the dissemination of information on decolonization.

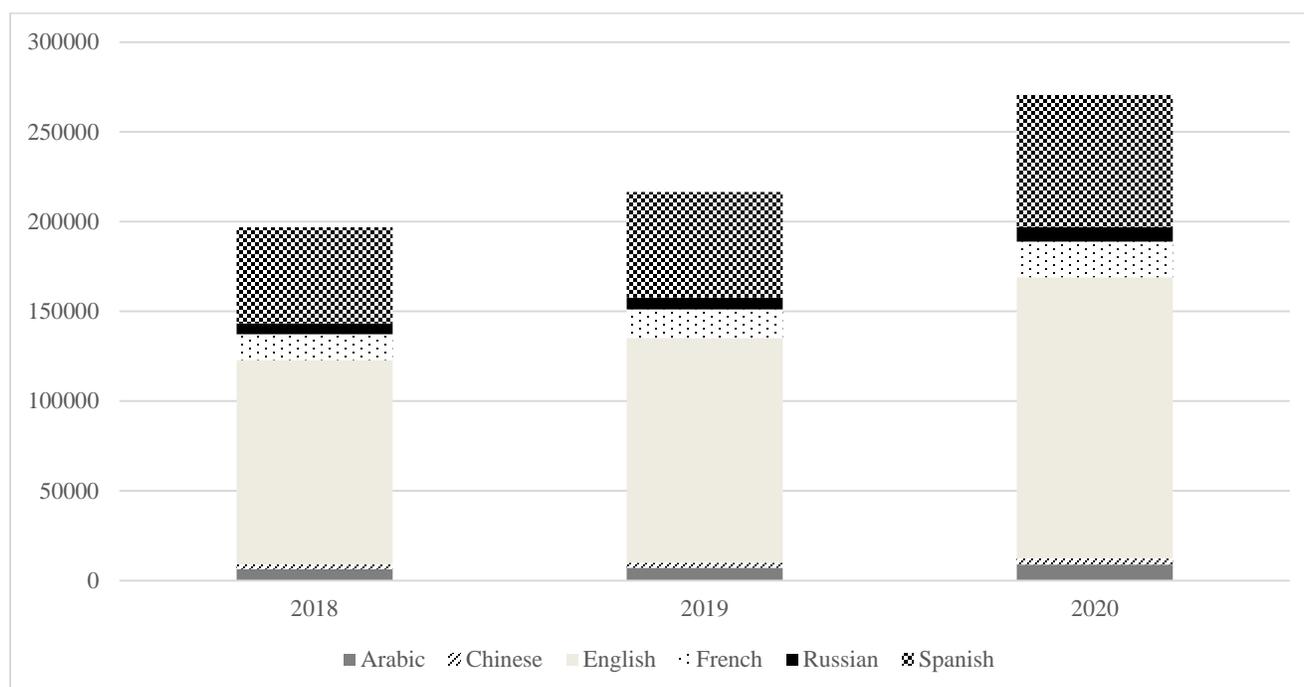
Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is better-informed stakeholders and continued engagement between the Territories, administering Powers, Member States and the public.

As recognized by some Member States, representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories and other relevant actors, the wider dissemination of information on decolonization is expected to lead to increased interest and participation by all actors in the relevant activities of the Special Committee, including, but not limited to, the plenary sessions, regional seminars and visiting missions, and the General Assembly. Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include an increase in the number of visitors, as shown in the figure.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures: current and expected number of users of the United Nations decolonization website



3.59 The following General Assembly resolutions comprise the main mandates entrusted to the subprogramme: resolution 1514 (XV) on the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples; and resolution 1541 (XV) on the principles which should guide Members in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter. The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.60 Table 3.4 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.4

Subprogramme 4: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 planned	2018 actual	2019 planned	2020 planned
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	22	22	22	22
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	63	48	63	63
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
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D. Communication deliverables

Digital platforms and multimedia content

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables**Variances between the actual and planned figures in 2018**

- 3.61 The variance in substantive services for meetings was driven mainly by fewer meetings than planned being requested for: (a) the plenary meetings of the Special Committee; and (b) the meetings of the Bureau of the Special Committee.



Subprogramme 5 Question of Palestine

1. Objective

- 3.62 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the programme of work of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People in its efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, to support the achievement without delay of an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967 and of the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.63 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 5, which is to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to end all forms of discrimination against all women and girls; ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life; and adopt and strengthen sound policies for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels.
- 3.64 The objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to significantly reduce all forms of violence; promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels; and broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.
- 3.65 Furthermore, the objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 17, which is to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation; respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development; and enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

High-level United Nations forum increased awareness of the Palestinian question

In 2018, the subprogramme, under the auspices of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, organized the United Nations Forum on the Question of Palestine, on the theme “70 years after 1948 – lessons to achieve a sustainable peace” to mark the anniversary of the 1948 war and subsequent uprooting and mass displacement of Palestinians, known as the Nakbah (the catastrophe). Over two days, on 17 and 18 May, Israeli and Palestinian politicians, civil society activists and academics, and representatives of Member States, debated the roots of the conflict, current developments and obstacles to meaningful negotiations on permanent status issues, as well as options to overcome the political stalemate.



Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, Chair of the Committee Fodé Seck and Palestinian representative Hanan Ashrawi at the United Nations Forum on the Question of Palestine, held at United Nations Headquarters on 17 May 2018. Source: United Nations Photo

Ahead of the Forum, on 16 May, the subprogramme organized closed consultations between the Committee and civil society organizations working on Palestinian rights. The consultations enhanced cooperation and coordination between the Committee and civil society partners, as participants updated each other on their respective activities and discussed proposals for joint action.

The subprogramme provided support to the Committee in the organization of the Forum and the consultations with civil society organizations. For example, early conceptualization and consultations with the Committee and its Bureau, as well as a wide range of Israeli and Palestinian partners, enabled the subprogramme to identify for the Committee Israeli and Palestinian experts and key speakers who were or had been active participants in the political arena and represented a wide range of positions with regard to the conflict. Close to half of the Forum speakers and participants in the closed consultations were women. Furthermore, the choice of United Nations Headquarters as the Forum’s location achieved a high level of awareness among Member States, civil society and the media.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is one of the most diverse debates on Israeli-Palestinian issues to have taken place at United Nations Headquarters. The Forum thus provided an opportunity not only to strengthen international solidarity with the Palestinian people, but also to enhance dialogue and coordinate efforts to achieve a just solution to the conflict, and mobilized additional civil society support on promoting the rights of the Palestinian people.

Evidence of the result includes the recognition of the diverse viewpoints in post-event testimonies of the participants and their organizations, as well as in the Committee’s annual report for 2018 to the General Assembly ([A/73/35](#)), which included many civil society recommendations voiced during the Forum. Recommendations included the need to reframe the Palestinian-Israeli conflict; the importance of the acknowledgment by Israel of the Nakbah and its impact on the Palestinian people as a necessary requirement for a viable and lasting peace; the call upon the international community to shift from a humanitarian to a political and human rights framework in addressing the plight of the Palestinian people; and the need to treat Palestine refugees as dispossessed nationals of a country (State of Palestine) rather than stateless refugees.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.66 A planned result for 2018, which is heightened international awareness of the question of Palestine, as well as international support for the rights of the Palestinian people and the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine through the work of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the sustained level of dialogue, engagement and support

on the part of the international community for the programme’s objectives, through the holding of four international meetings and conferences in 2018 against a biennial target of eight.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Enhanced strategic communications capacity of the Palestinian Government

Since 1997, the subprogramme has been responsible for conducting a capacity-building programme for Palestinian officials on multilateral diplomacy and international trade. In 2018, the General Assembly, in its resolution 73/21, requested the Secretariat to develop and enhance the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Government in contribution to Palestinian capacity-building efforts.

Challenge and response

The challenge was to make the annual training programme more demand-driven and ensure that it is adding value, while avoiding duplication of efforts.

In response, for 2020, efforts will be made to make the programme more relevant to Palestinian needs. The subprogramme, authorized by the Bureau of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, redefined the goals of the programme, reassessed its components and duration, tightened the criteria for the selection of candidates, prioritizing gender balance among trainees, customized the training to the profile of candidates and made the training more rigorous. During a fact-finding mission to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the subprogramme met with 10 Palestinian ministries to assess national training needs and identified capacity gaps, such as strategic communications, implications of international conventions signed by Palestine and training for administrators, managers and human resources and finance staff. It also met with 12 United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on the ground to ensure complementarity of training activities.

The subprogramme will also enhance the capacity-building programme through an impact evaluation. In addition to existing modules on international diplomacy and trade taking place in New York and Geneva, the subprogramme will organize training on strategic communications and on international conventions to which the State of Palestine has recently become a party, in cooperation with other United Nations agencies and in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation by partnering with trainers from the global South.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is more effective communication by the Palestinian Government with the international community and domestic constituencies, and ultimately responsive, responsible and accountable institutions, which are better equipped to implement international human rights obligations in the territory under their control, on the path to full sovereignty, as shown in the table. Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the additional number of Palestinian Government staff who, following the training, will go on to work in fields related to strategic communications.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

2018	2019	2020
Absence of training on strategic communications and international conventions by the subprogramme	Officials participate in training organized by the subprogramme	Additional number of Palestinian Government staff who, following the training, will go on to work in fields related to strategic communications

- 3.67 The following General Assembly resolutions comprise the main mandates entrusted to the subprogramme: resolution 73/18 on the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; and resolution 73/21 on the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat. The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

- 3.68 Table 3.5 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.5

Subprogramme 5: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	2	2	2	2
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	32	32	32	32
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	45	45	45	45
Publications (number of publications)	4	4	4	4
Technical materials (number of materials)	66	59	66	59
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				
Databases and substantive digital materials				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials				
External and media relations				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				
Library services				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variations between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.69 The variance in technical materials was driven by the NGO Action News bulletin on recent and upcoming activities of civil society organizations affiliated with the Committee, owing to the consolidation of NGO Action News bulletins in times of few events and holiday periods.

Variations between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

- 3.70 The variance in technical materials is driven by the NGO Action News bulletin on recent and upcoming activities of civil society organizations affiliated with the Committee, owing to the adjustment in the planned number of NGO Action News bulletins, in line with recent actual experience.



Subprogramme 6 Peacebuilding Support Office

1. Objective

- 3.71 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance sustained, coherent and strategic international engagement to build and sustain peace in conflict-affected countries.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.72 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), Goal 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all), Goal 10 (Reduce inequality within and among countries), Goal 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels) and Goal 17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership For Sustainable Development).

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Sustained, coherent and strategic international engagement to build and sustain peace in the Sahel

In 2018, the United Nations adopted a new integrated strategy to address the root causes of the complex crisis in the Sahel. The growing threat posed by terrorism and violent extremism in these remote areas had made it difficult to focus international attention on core conflict drivers, such as weak development indicators, conflict over land and the effects of climate change. The subprogramme provided substantive support to the intergovernmental Peacebuilding Commission, managed the Peacebuilding Fund and advanced joint analysis and policy on issues pertaining to peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

In the course of 2018, the subprogramme supported increased engagement by Member States in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the Sahel region. It facilitated and prepared visits to the region by the leadership of the Peacebuilding Commission and substantively prepared meetings of the Commission dedicated to the subject of the Sahel, as well as relevant individual country situations. It also leveraged the Peacebuilding Fund as an instrument to catalyse coherent United Nations system programming on the ground, and helped to draw together the United Nations system to advance joint analysis and coherence of engagement in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the field. For example, the Peacebuilding Fund invested more than \$60 million to kick-start the implementation of the United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel. Governments including Burkina Faso requested eligibility to access funding from the Peacebuilding Fund and worked with the United Nations country teams and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel to develop relevant programming to address key challenges, including those relating to



The Peacebuilding Commission's annual session in 2018, dedicated to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the Sahel region, with the participation of the Deputy Secretary-General (12 November 2018). Source: United Nations Photo/Rick Bajornas

transhumance and cross-border peacebuilding, as well as those pertaining to the enhanced inclusion of women and youth in peacebuilding. In March 2018, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support and the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission participated in the sixth meeting of the Ministerial Coordination Platform for the Sahel, held in Chad. Later in the year, they undertook a joint visit to West Africa that included Burkina Faso. Subsequently, a joint visit by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support and the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations to Mali in December 2018 laid the basis for enhanced programming by the Peacebuilding Fund in the context of the renewal of eligibility of Mali to access the Fund in 2019. Towards the end of the year, the Commission's annual session was dedicated to the Sahel, making use of its convening ability to redirect attention to the root causes of conflict and the drivers of long-term peace in the region.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is more sustained, coherent and strategic international engagement to build and sustain peace in the Sahel, while maintaining national ownership and leadership as a fundamental principle.

Evidence of the result includes the interest of Member States, demonstrated at successive meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission dedicated to the Sahel and by the Commission's decision to both devote its annual session, held in November 2018, to peacebuilding in the Sahel and maintain that interest as a priority in the course of 2019, with the next annual session also focusing on the Sahel. The significant increase in Peacebuilding Fund programming across the region reflects strengthened interest on the part of both Governments and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to implement projects that have peacebuilding objectives, with a particular focus on issues of inclusivity, especially of women and youth, and on cross-border challenges and transhumance. Implementation of new cross-border projects was advanced, at the request of Governments and United Nations country teams, involving Mali, Burkina Faso, the Niger and Chad. Governments sought the support of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund, including through the request to be declared eligible. The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.73 A planned result for 2018, which is the effective mobilization of resources for the Peacebuilding Fund and their efficient allocation to prevent the lapse or relapse into conflict, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the annual fundraising target of \$100 million pledges to the Peacebuilding Fund, which was exceeded, as the Office recorded contributions to the Peacebuilding Fund in the amount of \$130 million in 2018. This increase in contributions reflected the Secretary-General's repeated call for a "quantum leap" in contributions to further grow the Peacebuilding Fund as a critical instrument supporting peacebuilding activities in countries affected by crisis and conflict and enhancing the coherence of the United Nations system on the ground in relevant settings. The Fund continued to increase the overall amount of investments approved in 2018 to \$183 million, \$60 million of which was dedicated to the priority of supporting the countries of the Sahel region alone. At the same time, the Fund also managed to again exceed the amount of funds raised in the preceding year by 16.5 per cent, signifying further growth of revenue. This underscores the continued strong performance of the Peacebuilding Fund and its successful management by the Peacebuilding Support Office on behalf of the Secretary-General.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

More coherent and inclusive engagement to build and sustain peace

In 2018, the subprogramme advised and supported the Peacebuilding Commission to mobilize deeper commitment and partnership among the United Nations system, Member States and regional and international partners, including international financial institutions, in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Challenge and response

The challenge was for the United Nations system to deliver results in complex settings while maintaining sustained international attention and resources to address root causes and deliver long-term goals, in a context of increasingly challenging humanitarian and security situations and given the prevalence of a large number of operational actors.

In response, for 2020, the subprogramme intends to leverage the implementation of the restructuring of the peace and security pillar, as approved by Member States, for the goal of enhanced coherence and support for national ownership and leadership. The new peace and security architecture approved by the General Assembly in 2018 and put into effect on 1 January 2019 established the new Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, which combines the strategic, political and operational responsibilities of the former Department of Political Affairs and the peacebuilding responsibilities of the Peacebuilding Support Office. The new structures support more effective collaboration across the production of political analysis and support to the Peacebuilding Commission on the one hand, and the translation of such political analysis and strategy into peacebuilding programming and collaboration with United Nations system development actors to achieve nationally-owned peacebuilding outcomes on the other. This enables enhanced coherence across the United Nations system and its partners, and facilitates the leveraging of the entire spectrum of United Nations system engagement in support of Member States seeking to build and sustain peace.

For 2020, the subprogramme will further deepen internal coordination and leverage the new structures and approaches put in place through the restructuring of the peace and security pillar. This, in turn, will help to strengthen its support to the Peacebuilding Commission and enable the subprogramme to provide more effective advice and to widen the platform of the Commission to include a more diversified set of actors in its deliberations. In parallel, the subprogramme will also shift its approach to diversifying the actors it works with in support of peacebuilding programming on the ground, including implementing partners on the ground, such as civil society organizations. For instance, it will aim to ensure the engagement of civil society organizations to enable better peacebuilding outcomes on the ground, including in remote areas, while focusing on coherence and leveraging the comparative advantages of specific United Nations entities in country or regional contexts.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is engagement to build and sustain peace in specific regions that is both more coherent and inclusive.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the engagement of an increasingly broad constituency of international actors supporting peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts, including civil society organizations with the capacity to access remote areas, and the use of more comprehensive and coherent political analysis and strategy for peacebuilding programming and during Peacebuilding Commission meetings to facilitate enhanced engagement by Member States in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace and achieve more effective and sustained peacebuilding outcomes, as shown in the table.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

2018	2019	2020
Wide array of international actors supporting peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts, with limited joint analysis, strategy and coherence of engagement; use of political analysis and strategy for programming and Commission meetings that require collaboration but remain distinct	Widening constituency of international actors supporting peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts, increasingly encompassing civil society organizations and increasingly undertaking joint analysis and coherent action; use of political analysis and strategy for programming and Commission meetings that are produced within the single regional political-operational structure	Comprehensive constituency of international actors supporting peacebuilding and sustaining peace efforts, encompassing civil society organizations and other partners with the capacity to access remote areas, informed by joint analysis, strategy and coherent engagement; use of political analysis and strategy for programming and Commission meetings that are produced within the single regional political-operational structure and help to enhance United Nations system and international coherence and leverage the entire spectrum of United Nations interventions in support of Member States seeking to build or sustain peace

3.74 The following General Assembly and Security Council resolutions comprise the main mandates entrusted to the subprogramme: Assembly resolution [60/180](#) on the Peacebuilding Commission; Assembly resolutions [60/287](#) and [63/282](#) on the Peacebuilding Fund; and Assembly resolution [70/262](#) and Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#) on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture. The following new mandate was entrusted to the subprogramme in 2018: Assembly resolution [72/276](#) and Council resolution [2413 \(2018\)](#) on the follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.75 Table 3.6 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.6

Subprogramme 6: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 planned	2018 actual	2019 planned	2020 planned
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	2	3	2	3
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	53	53	53	55
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	5	–	4

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				
D. Communication deliverables				
External and media relations				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variations between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.76 The variance in parliamentary documentation was driven by the issuance of the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, owing to the request contained in General Assembly resolution [70/262](#) and Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#).
- 3.77 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events was driven mainly by the organization of regional training for prospective recipients, including ministries and other stakeholders, on the Peacebuilding Fund as a tool for peacebuilding. Those seminars and workshops were not included as a planned deliverable in the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2018–2019.

Variations between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

- 3.78 The variance in parliamentary documentation is driven by the planned issuance in 2020 of the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, owing to the request contained in General Assembly resolution [72/276](#) and Security Council resolution [2413 \(2018\)](#).
- 3.79 The variance in substantive services for meetings is driven by the anticipated meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission, owing to the preparations for the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture in 2020.
- 3.80 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events is driven by the planned organization of regional training for prospective recipients, including ministries and other stakeholders, on the Peacebuilding Fund as a tool for peacebuilding. Those seminars and workshops were not included as a planned deliverable in the biennial programme plan for the biennium 2018–2019.



Subprogramme 7 Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

1. Objective

- 3.81 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.82 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

3. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Opening of the liaison office and enhancing engagement activities

Following the signature of the protocol of amendment of the text of the cooperation agreement between the United Nations and the League of Arab States in September 2016 by the Secretaries-General of both institutions, in 2018, the United Nations continued its efforts to open a liaison office to the League of Arab States. In its resolution [73/267](#), the General Assembly welcomed the progress made in this regard and requested the Secretariat to expedite the opening of the office and, in cooperation with the secretariat of the League of Arab States, to finish preparing and adopt the terms of reference defining the functions and mandate of the United Nations office.

Challenge and response

The challenge was that, in the absence of a permanent liaison office, the engagement of the United Nations with the League of Arab States was funnelled through biennial high-level meetings and through the participation of the Secretary-General at summits of the League of Arab States, as well as through discussions at the operational level to strengthen capacities in relation to conflict prevention.

In response, for 2020, the liaison office will be fully functional and will work to consolidate the partnership with the aim of improving the effectiveness of cooperation between the two organizations, as recognized in resolution [73/267](#). The biennial general cooperation meetings and sectoral meetings will continue.

The subprogramme will participate in meetings of the League of Arab States in Cairo and elsewhere in the Arab world. The office will focus on peace and security issues in the Middle East and, in particular, will contribute to efforts to prioritize early warning and early action on preventing violent conflict; support national and regional capacities for facilitation and dialogue; and ensure that the good offices of the United Nations are easily and rapidly deployable. The United Nations and the League of Arab States will continue to work together to address global and regional challenges by deepening strategic dialogue, carrying out joint analysis and forging common approaches to issues such as preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, mediation and peacekeeping efforts in the Middle East and the Arab world.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is the consolidation of the partnership between the League of Arab States and the United Nations. Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the reaching of an agreement with the League of Arab States to deepen strategic dialogue; the conduct of joint analysis; the building of capacity towards the objectives of early action on preventing violent conflict; support for national and regional capacities for facilitation and dialogue; and the easy and rapid deployability of United Nations good offices.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

2018	2019	2020
The United Nations and the League of Arab States agree to establish a liaison office	The liaison office is established and there are improved consultations and information-sharing between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	Reaching of an agreement with the League of Arab States to deepen strategic dialogue; conduct of joint analysis; building of capacity towards the objectives of early action on preventing violent conflict; support for national and regional capacities for facilitation and dialogue; and easy and rapid deployability of United Nations good offices

3.83 The following General Assembly resolution comprises the main mandate entrusted to the subprogramme: resolution [73/267](#) on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States. The subprogramme will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

4. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.84 Table 3.7 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.7

Subprogramme 7: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)			–	4
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)			2	5
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				

5. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variances between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

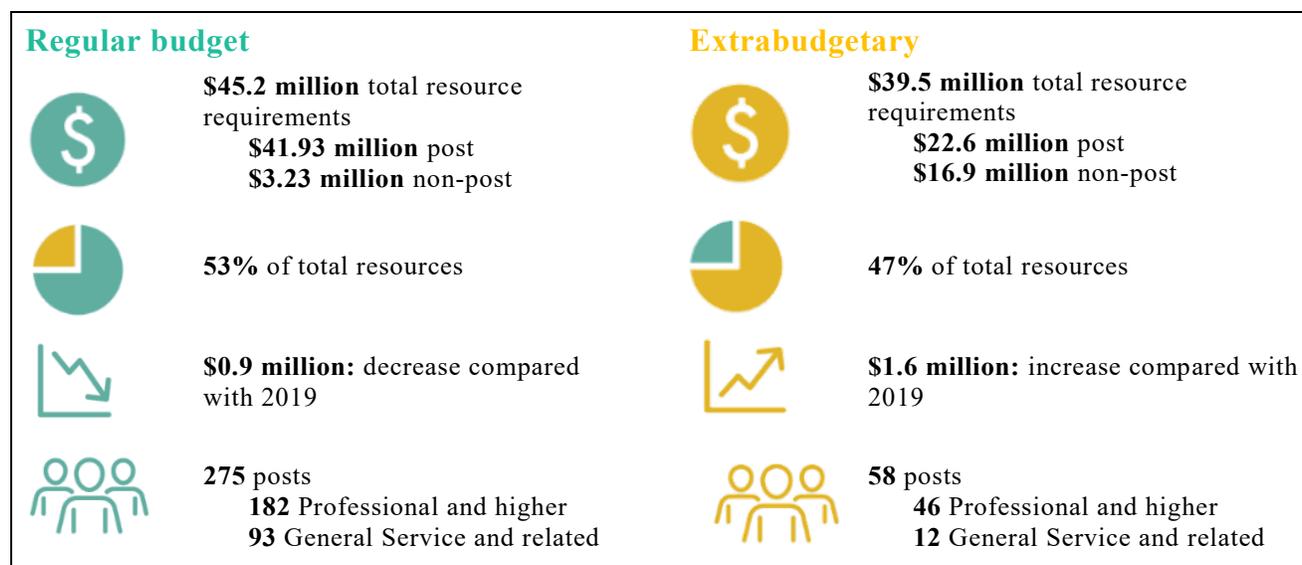
- 3.85 The variance in field and technical cooperation projects is driven by technical cooperation projects on peace and security, including conflict prevention, mediation and peacebuilding, owing to the increased capacity of the subprogramme to support beneficiaries in 2020.
- 3.86 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events is driven by the holding of a capacity-building event on peace and security for the secretariat of the League of Arab States, owing to the increased capacity of the subprogramme to support beneficiaries in 2020.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020

Overview

3.87 The total resource requirements for 2020, comprising the regular budget and projected extrabudgetary resources, are reflected in figure 3.II and table 3.8.

Figure 3.II
2020 in numbers



Note: Estimates before recosting.

Table 3.8

Overview of financial and post resources by component, subprogramme and funding source

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Regular budget			Extrabudgetary			Total		
	2019 appropriation	2020 estimate (before recosting)	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance
Financial resources									
Policymaking organs									
Security Council	84.0	84.0	–	–	–	–	84.0	84.0	–
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	29.7	29.7	–	–	–	–	29.7	29.7	–
Subtotal, policymaking organs	113.7	113.7	–	–	–	–	113.7	113.7	–
Executive direction and management	1 658.3	1 544.2	(114.1)	3 344.6	3 511.8	167.2	5 002.9	5 056.0	53.1
Programme of work									
1. Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts	23 643.3	23 041.2	(602.1)	25 004.0	26 254.2	1 250.2	48 647.3	49 295.4	648.1

Part II Political affairs

	<i>Regular budget</i>			<i>Extrabudgetary</i>			<i>Total</i>		
	<i>2019 appropriation</i>	<i>2020 estimate (before recosting)</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>2019 estimate</i>	<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>2019 estimate</i>	<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>
2. Electoral assistance	3 771.1	3 714.6	(56.5)	1 254.0	1 316.7	62.7	5 025.1	5 031.3	6.2
3. Security Council affairs	6 855.6	6 803.7	(51.9)	391.0	410.6	19.6	7 246.6	7 214.3	(32.3)
4. Decolonization	801.8	801.8	–	152.0	159.6	7.6	953.8	961.4	7.6
5. Question of Palestine	2 763.6	2 661.2	(102.4)	40.0	42.0	2.0	2 803.6	2 703.2	(100.4)
6. Peacebuilding Support Office	3 376.9	3 470.3	93.4	5 331.0	5 331.0	–	8 707.9	8 801.3	93.4
7. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	269.5	368.9	99.4	–	–	–	269.5	368.9	99.4
Subtotal, programme of work	41 481.8	40 861.7	(620.1)	32 172.0	33 514.1	1 342.1	73 653.8	74 375.8	722.0
Programme support	2 787.4	2 639.8	(147.6)	2 327.4	2 443.8	116.4	5 114.8	5 083.6	(31.2)
Total	46 041.2	45 159.4	(881.8)	37 844.0	39 469.7	1 625.7	83 885.2	84 629.1	743.9
Post resources									
Policymaking organs									
Security Council	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Executive direction and management	10	9	(1)	6	6	–	16	15	(1)
Programme of work									
1. Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts	148	145	(3)	32	32	–	180	177	(3)
2. Electoral assistance	22	22	–	1	1	–	23	23	–
3. Security Council affairs	48	48	–	–	–	–	48	48	–
4. Decolonization	5	5	–	–	–	–	5	5	–
5. Question of Palestine	15	15	–	–	–	–	15	15	–
6. Peacebuilding Support Office	17	17	–	9	9	–	26	26	–
7. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	2	2	–	–	–	–	2	2	–
Subtotal, programme of work	257	254	(3)	42	42	–	299	296	(3)
Programme support	12	12	–	10	10	–	22	22	–
Total	279	275	(4)	58	58	–	337	333	(4)

Overview of resources for the regular budget

- 3.88 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 3.9 to 3.11. The proposals reflect reductions that were made possible, in part, by the redistribution of work; the rationalization of consultancies; the review of the expenditure experience of non-post resources; and improved travel planning, including the planned holding of meetings in closer proximity to regional participants. Further details are provided under the respective components. The proposed resource level provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.
- 3.89 The 2018 expenditure for the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs includes expenditures in an amount of \$1,762,700, funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General under paragraph 1 (a) of General Assembly resolution [72/264](#) relating to commitments for unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures, not exceeding a total of \$8 million in any one year, that the Secretary-General certifies as relating to the maintenance of peace and security. By its resolution [73/297](#), the General Assembly appropriated resources for those expenditures.

Table 3.9
Evolution of financial resources by component and main category of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Component	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2020 estimate (after recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total				Percentage
Policymaking organs	414.3	113.7	–	–	–	–	–	113.7	1.8	115.5
Executive direction and management	2 599.4	1 658.3	–	–	(114.1)	(114.1)	(6.9)	1 544.2	68.5	1 612.7
Programme of work	40 042.0	41 481.8	211.4	–	(831.5)	(620.1)	(1.5)	40 861.7	1 859.2	42 720.9
Programme support	2 736.7	2 787.4	–	–	(147.6)	(147.6)	(5.3)	2 639.8	69.6	2 709.4
Total	45 792.4	46 041.2	211.4	–	(1 093.2)	(881.8)	(1.9)	45 159.4	1 999.1	47 158.5
Main category of expenditure										
Post	41 000.9	42 216.3	241.2	–	(523.5)	(282.3)	(0.7)	41 934.0	1 947.9	43 881.9
Non-post	4 791.5	3 824.9	(29.8)	–	(569.7)	(599.5)	(15.7)	3 225.4	51.2	3 276.6
Total	45 792.4	46 041.2	211.4	–	(1 093.2)	(881.8)	(1.9)	45 159.4	1 999.1	47 158.5

Table 3.10
Evolution of established post resources by category

Professional and higher	2019 approved	Changes			2020 estimate	Variance
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other		
USG	1	–	–	–	1	–
ASG	3	–	–	–	3	–
D-2	9	–	–	–	9	–
D-1	16	–	–	–	16	–

Part II Political affairs

	<i>Changes</i>				<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>
	<i>2019 approved</i>	<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>New/expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>		
P-5	40	–	–	–	40	–
P-4	53	–	–	–	53	–
P-3	41	–	–	(2)	39	(2)
P-2/1	21	–	–	(1)	20	(1)
Subtotal	184	–	–	(3)	181	(3)
General Service						
Principal level	5	–	–	–	5	–
Other level	84	–	–	(1)	83	(1)
Subtotal	89	–	–	(1)	88	(1)
Other						
Local level	2	–	–	–	2	–
Subtotal	2	–	–	–	2	–
Total	275	–	–	(4)	271	(4)

Note: The breakdown of post changes by component, subprogramme and post level is provided in annex II.
Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Table 3.11
Evolution of temporary post resources by category

	<i>Changes</i>				<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>
	<i>2019 approved</i>	<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>New/expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>		
Professional and higher						
P-5	1	–	–	–	1	–
Subtotal	1	–	–	–	1	–
General Service						
Other level	3	–	–	–	3	–
Subtotal	3	–	–	–	3	–
Total	4	–	–	–	4	–

Policymaking organs

3.90 The resources proposed under this component provide for requirements relating to standing intergovernmental organs and expert bodies, special sessions of the General Assembly and intergovernmental processes, the servicing of which is the responsibility of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. Tables 3.12 and 3.13 provide information on the standing intergovernmental organs and related resource requirements under the regular budget.

Table 3.12
Policymaking organs

	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Membership</i>		<i>Number of sessions in 2020</i>	<i>Resource requirements (thousands of United States dollars)</i>	
			<i>Governments</i>	<i>Experts</i>		<i>2019 appropriation</i>	<i>2020 estimate (before recosting)</i>
Security Council	Article 7 of the Charter of the United Nations	The Security Council, one of the principal organs of the United Nations under Article 7 of the Charter of the United Nations, is charged with primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. As specified in Article 28 of the Charter, the Council is to be so organized as to be able to function continuously. In addition to regular meetings, the President of the Security Council can call meetings of the Council any time he or she deems it necessary, as well as at the request of any member of the Council and in the context of Articles 11, 35 and 99 of the Charter. The Security Council is authorized, under Article 29 of the Charter, to establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.	15	–	Continuous	84.0	84.0
Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	General Assembly resolution 3376 (XXX)	The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 3376 (XXX). The Committee meets throughout the year as required and submits an annual report to the General Assembly. In discharging its mandate to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people (subprogramme 5), the Committee participates in meetings, sends delegations on missions and invites, as necessary, prominent personalities or experts. Its mandate, which has been expanded over the years, was most recently reaffirmed by the Assembly in its resolution 73/18. It is envisaged that the	26 (members) 21 (observers)	–	7	29.7	29.7

	Mandate	Description	Membership			Resource requirements (thousands of United States dollars)	
			Governments	Experts	Number of sessions in 2020	2019 appropriation	2020 estimate (before recosting)
		Committee will remain in existence until a just, comprehensive and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine has been achieved, Israeli-Palestinian peace agreements have been effectively implemented and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people have been fully realized.					
	Military Staff Committee	Article 47 of the Charter	5	–	Continuous	–	–
	Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions	June 1993 (no formal decision taken)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations	Statement by the President of the Security Council dated 31 January 2001 (S/PRST/2001/3)		–		–	–
	Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa	Note by the President of the Security Council dated 1 March 2002 (S/2002/207)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict	Security Council resolution 1612 (2005)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Working Group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004)	Security Council resolution 1566 (2004)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Informal Working Group on International Tribunals	4161st meeting of the Security Council, held on 20 June 2000 (no formal decision taken)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia	Security Council resolution 751 (1992)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989	Security Council resolutions 1267	15	–	Continuous	–	–

	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Membership</i>			<i>Resource requirements (thousands of United States dollars)</i>	
			<i>Governments</i>	<i>Experts</i>	<i>Number of sessions in 2020</i>	<i>2019 appropriation</i>	<i>2020 estimate (before recosting)</i>
	(2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities	(1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015)					
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003)	Security Council resolution 1518 (2003)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1636 (2005)	Security Council resolution 1636 (2005)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)	Security Council resolution 1718 (2006)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya	Security Council resolution 1970 (2011)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)	Security Council resolution 1988 (2011)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the Central African Republic	Security Council resolution 2127 (2013)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau	Security Council resolution 2048 (2012)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014)	Security Council resolution 2140 (2014)	15	–	Continuous	–	–
	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015) concerning South Sudan	Security Council resolution 2206 (2015)	15	–	Continuous	–	–

	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Membership</i>		<i>Number of sessions in 2020</i>	<i>Resource requirements (thousands of United States dollars)</i>	
			<i>Governments</i>	<i>Experts</i>		<i>2019 appropriation</i>	<i>2020 estimate (before recosting)</i>
Implementation of resolution 2231 (2015)	Security Council resolution 2231 (2015)		15	–	Continuous	–	–
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017) concerning Mali	Security Council resolution 2374 (2017)		15	–	Continuous	–	–
Peacebuilding Commission	General Assembly resolution 60/180	The Peacebuilding Commission is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Security Council and an intergovernmental advisory body that supports peace efforts in conflict affected countries. It enhances the capacity of the international community to support countries in the endeavour to build and sustain peace. The Commission is composed of 31 Member States, elected from the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council. The top financial contributing countries and the top troop-contributing countries to the United Nations system are also members.	31	55	Continuous	–	–
Total resource requirements						113.7	113.7

- 3.91 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$113,700 and reflect no resource change compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.13.

Table 3.13

Policymaking organs: evolution of financial resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2018 expenditure ^a	2019 appropriation	Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Non-post	414.3	113.7	–	–	–	–	–	113.7

^a The 2018 expenditure includes \$312,500 funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures.

Executive direction and management

- 3.92 The Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs is responsible for the overall direction, supervision and management of the Department in the implementation of its mandates and its approved programme of work. In addition to performing the functions of department head, following the reform of the United Nations peace and security architecture in January 2019, the Under-Secretary-General provides the Secretary-General with advice and support on all political matters in coordination with the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, as necessary; oversees and provides political guidance and instructions to special political missions under the Department's purview, including special and personal envoys and representatives of the Secretary-General; directs and manages, on behalf of the Secretary-General, diplomatic activities relating to the prevention, control and resolution of conflicts and disputes, including preventive diplomacy, political mediation, peacemaking and post-conflict peacebuilding; acts as the United Nations focal point for all matters related to electoral assistance; and directs the provision of substantive support and secretariat services to the Security Council (including on special political missions in thematic cluster II, which includes sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels, and other entities and mechanisms), the General Assembly and relevant subsidiary organs. In close consultation with the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, the Under-Secretary General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs provides direction and strategic guidance to the Assistant Secretaries-General with regional responsibilities on matters under the purview of the Department.
- 3.93 To support the Under-Secretary-General in her oversight and management responsibilities, the Office of the Under-Secretary-General includes the Chief of Office and focal points for regional and thematic divisions and for monitoring and evaluation. The Office also includes small teams that handle strategic communications and donor relations. In line with requests from the United Nations system, the Office of the Under-Secretary-General provides direction to ensure close cooperation and coordination with Secretariat entities, agencies, funds and programmes in the area of peace and security.
- 3.94 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 72/219, the Department is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. In 2018, the Department reduced its carbon footprint by delivering capacity-building activities for field staff in their immediate region rather than having staff from missions travel to Headquarters, relying more systematically on electronic records and communications to reduce printing and photocopy paper and more frequently on video-conferences as a possible replacement for travel. In 2020, the Department will continue to build on initiatives in those areas.
- 3.95 Information on compliance with regard to the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 3.14.

Table 3.14
Compliance rate

(Percentage)

	Planned 2018	Actual 2018	Planned 2019	Planned 2020
Timely submission of documentation	100	88	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	100	28	100	100

3.96 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$1,544,200 and reflect a decrease of \$114,100 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figures 3.III to 3.V and table 3.15.

Figure 3.III

Resources for executive direction and management as a percentage of the regular budget

(Millions of United States dollars)



Table 3.15

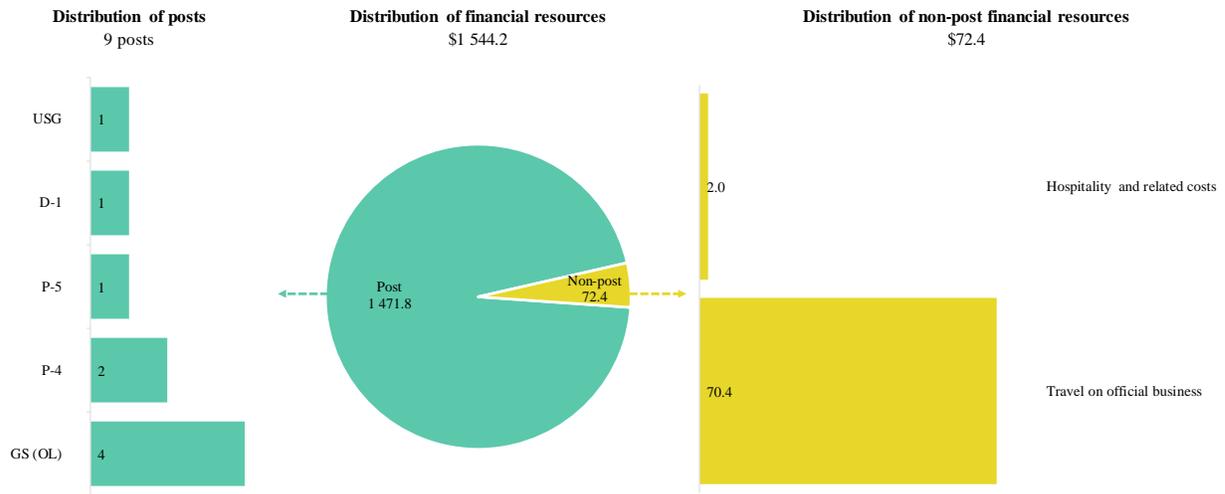
Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure ^a	2019 appropriation	Changes				Total	Percentage	2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other				
Financial resources by main category of expenditure									
Post	1 428.2	1 555.7	–	–	(83.9)	(83.9)	(5.4)	1 471.8	
Non-post	1 171.3	102.6	–	–	(30.2)	(30.2)	(29.4)	72.4	
Total	2 599.4	1 658.3	–	–	(114.1)	(114.1)	(6.9)	1 544.2	
Post resources by category									
Professional and higher		5	–	–	–	–	–	5	
General Service and related		5	–	–	(1)	(1)	(20.0)	4	
Total		10	–	–	(1)	(1)	(10.0)	9	

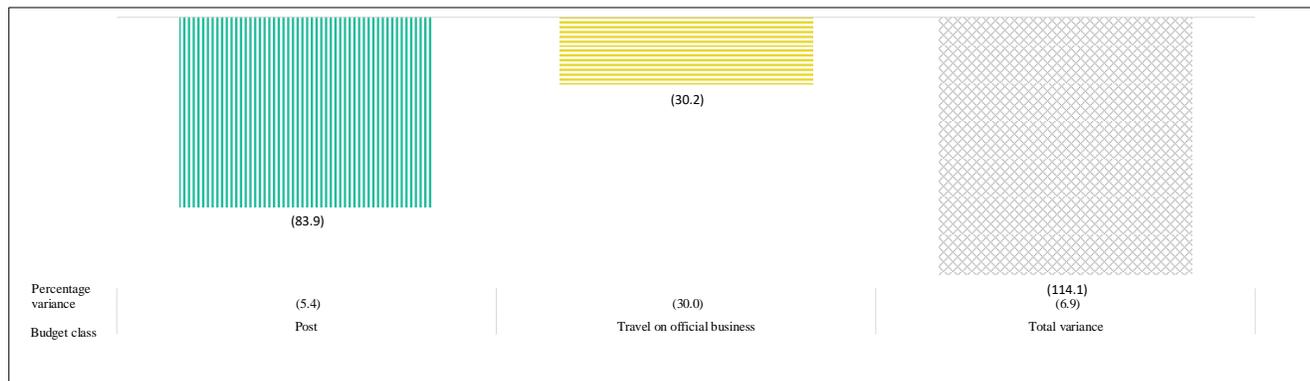
^a The 2018 expenditure includes \$1,114,400 funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures.

Figure 3.IV
Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)
 (Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Figure 3.V
Executive direction and management: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class
 (Thousands of United States dollars)



3.97 The variance of \$114,100 reflects:

Other changes. The decrease under post resources of \$83,900 relates to the proposed abolishment of one post of Team Assistant (General Service (Other level)) in the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. The reduction of \$30,200 under non-post resources reflects a decrease under for travel on official business, made possible by improved travel planning.

3.98 The executive direction and management component is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$3,511,800, including 6 posts, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would support activities carried out by the Office of the Under-Secretary-General in providing strategic programmatic aspects of extrabudgetary resource management for the Department and support the multi-year appeal mechanism for fundraising. The increase of \$167,200 reflects the expected increase in extrabudgetary resources.

Programme of work

3.99 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$40,861,700 and reflect a net decrease of \$620,100 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figures 3.VI and 3.VII and table 3.16.

Figure 3.VI

Resources for the programme of work as a percentage of the regular budget

(Millions of United States dollars)

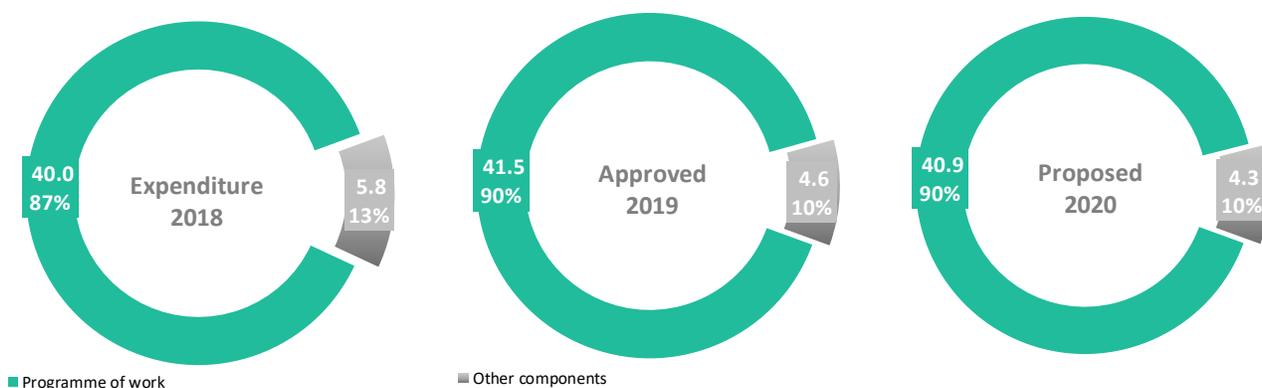


Table 3.16

Programme of work: evolution of financial and post resources

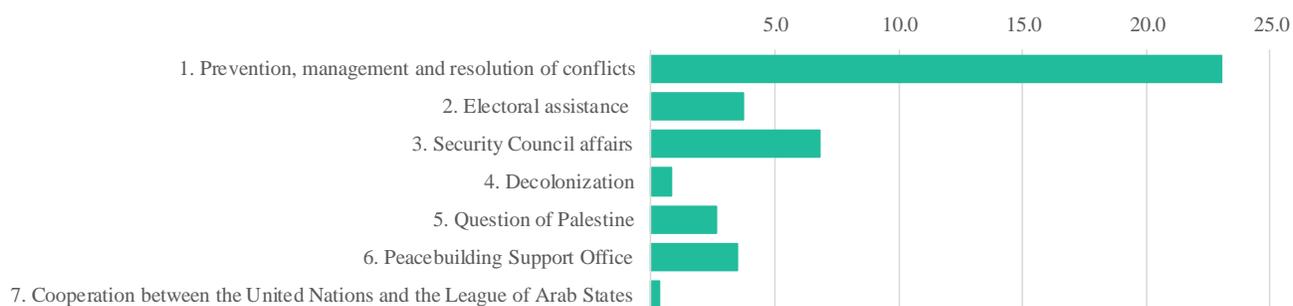
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes			Total	Percentage	2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other			
Financial resources by subprogramme								
1. Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts	22 827.0	23 643.3	–	–	(602.1)	(602.1)	(2.5)	23 041.2
2. Electoral assistance	3 714.5	3 771.1	–	–	(56.5)	(56.5)	(1.5)	3 714.6
3. Security Council affairs	7 098.4	6 855.6	–	–	(51.9)	(51.9)	(0.8)	6 803.7
4. Decolonization	852.4	801.8	–	–	–	–	–	801.8
5. Question of Palestine	2 580.5	2 763.6	–	–	(102.4)	(102.4)	(3.7)	2 661.2
6. Peacebuilding Support Office	2 969.3	3 376.9	112.0	–	(18.6)	93.4	2.8	3 470.3
7. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	–	269.5	99.4	–	–	99.4	36.9	368.9
Total	40 042.0	41 481.8	211.4	–	(831.5)	(620.1)	(1.5)	40 861.7
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	38 066.4	39 390.0	241.2	–	(439.6)	(198.4)	(0.5)	39 191.6
Non-post	1 975.6	2 091.8	(29.8)	–	(391.9)	(421.7)	(20.2)	1 670.1
Total	40 042.0	41 481.8	211.4	–	(831.5)	(620.1)	(1.5)	40 861.7

Section 3 Political affairs

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total		Percentage
Post resources by subprogramme								
1. Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts		148	–	–	(3)	(3)	(2.0)	145
2. Electoral assistance		22	–	–	–	–	–	22
3. Security Council affairs		48	–	–	–	–	–	48
4. Decolonization		5	–	–	–	–	–	5
5. Question of Palestine		15	–	–	–	–	–	15
6. Peacebuilding Support Office		17	–	–	–	–	–	17
7. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States		2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Total		257	–	–	(3)	(3)	(1.2)	254

Figure 3.VII
Distribution of proposed resources for 2020 by subprogramme
(Millions of United States dollars)



**Subprogramme 1
Prevention, management and resolution of conflicts**

3.100 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$23,041,200 and reflect a net decrease of \$602,100 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.17 and figures 3.VIII and 3.IX.

Table 3.17
Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

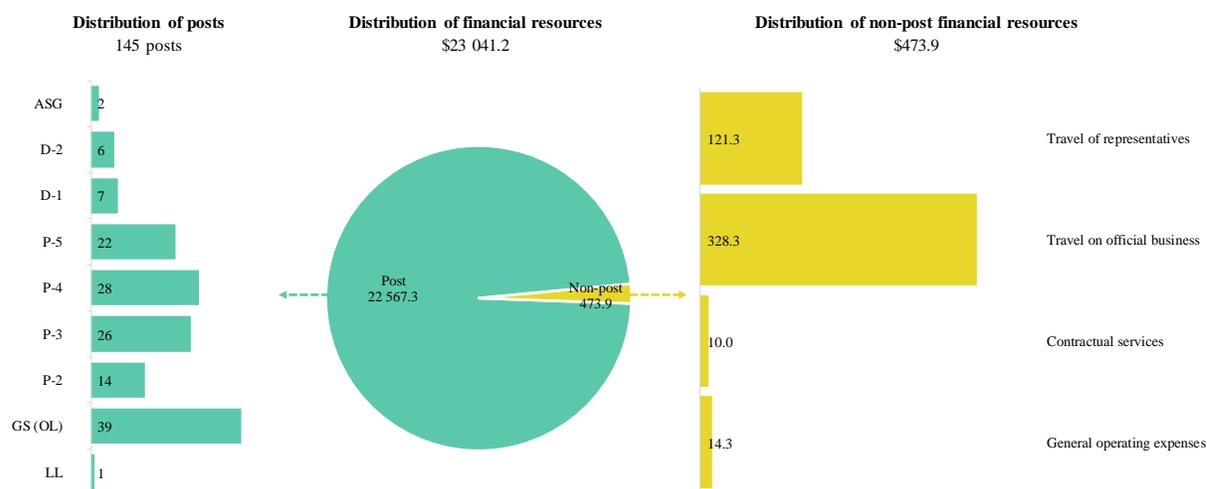
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure ^a	2019 appropriation	Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	21 967.9	23 006.9	–	–	(439.6)	(439.6)	(1.9)	22 567.3
Non-post	859.1	636.4	–	–	(162.5)	(162.5)	(25.5)	473.9
Total	22 827.0	23 643.3	–	–	(602.1)	(602.1)	(2.5)	23 041.2
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		108	–	–	(3)	(3)	(2.8)	105
General Service and related		40	–	–	–	–	–	40
Total		148	–	–	(3)	(3)	(2.0)	145

^a The 2018 expenditure includes \$234,700 funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures.

Figure 3.VIII
Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

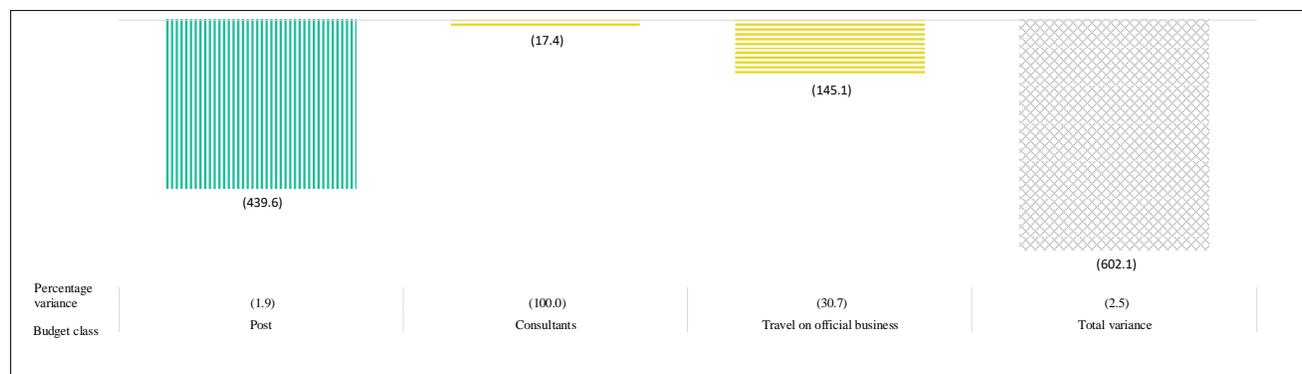


Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); LL, Local level.

Figure 3.IX

Subprogramme 1: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



3.101 The variance of \$602,100 reflects:

Other changes. The decrease under post resources of \$439,600 relates to the proposed abolishment of one post of Political Affairs Officer (P-3) in the Central and Southern Africa Division, one post of Political Affairs Officer (P-3) in the Middle East Division and one post of Associate Political Affairs Officer (P-2) in the Eastern Africa Division, as a result of the redistribution of work. The decrease of \$162,500 under non-post resources mainly relates to a reduction of \$145,100 under travel on official business, reflecting improved travel planning.

3.102 The subprogramme is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$26,254,200, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would provide funding for 32 posts and support activities in the areas of preventive diplomacy, conflict resolution, mediation and peacemaking. The projected increase of \$1,250,200 compared with 2019 reflects the expected increase in extrabudgetary resources.

**Subprogramme 2
Electoral assistance**

3.103 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$3,714,600 and reflect a net decrease of \$56,500 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.18 and figure 3.X.

Table 3.18

Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure ^a	2019 appropriation	Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	3 445.3	3 582.5	–	–	–	–	–	3 582.5
Non-post	269.2	188.6	–	–	(56.5)	(56.5)	(30.0)	132.1
Total	3 714.5	3 771.1	–	–	(56.5)	(56.5)	(1.5)	3 714.6

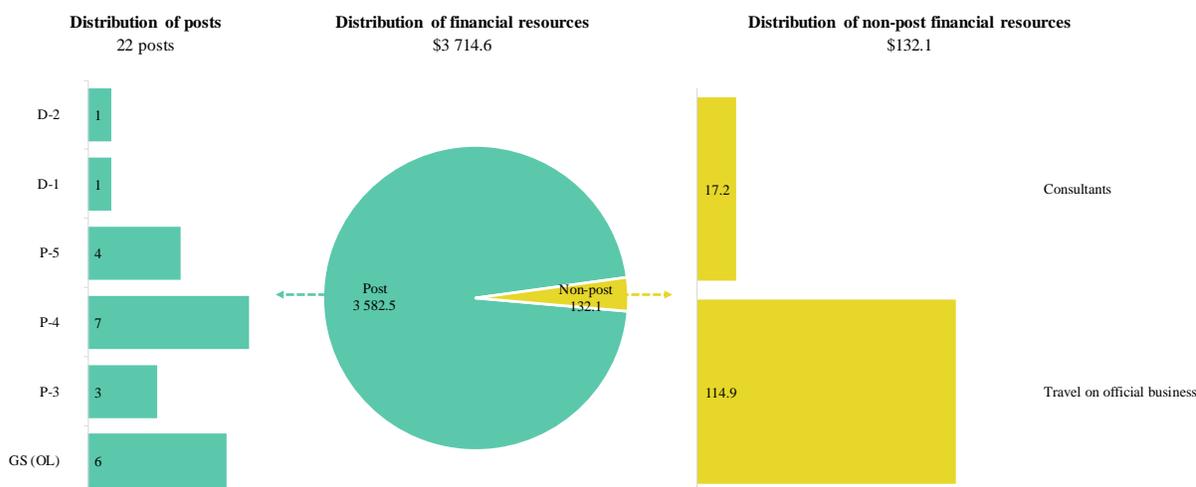
Part II Political affairs

	2018 expenditure ^a	2019 appropriation	Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		16	—	—	—	—	—	16
General Service and related		6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Total		22	—	—	—	—	—	22

^a The 2018 expenditure includes \$101,100 funded under the authority granted to the Secretary-General relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenditures.

Figure 3.X
Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

3.104 The variance of \$56,500 reflects:

Other changes. The reduction under non-post resources of \$56,500 relates to a decrease under travel on official business, reflecting improved travel planning.

3.105 The subprogramme is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$1,316,700, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would provide funding for one post and would finance needs assessment missions undertaken as the first response to requests for electoral assistance and urgent electoral missions related to conflict prevention or mission start-up. Extrabudgetary resources would also finance, inter alia, the costs of critical electoral activities as new needs arise in the course of an electoral assistance programme; a knowledge management system that includes research on important policy issues and the development of guidelines; and the cost of post-election assessments for coordination with system-wide post-conflict peacebuilding and/or democratization efforts. The resources would also be used to ensure that the subprogramme is able to effectively and actively participate in and lead global electoral events, engage in joint electoral initiatives with regional and intergovernmental organizations and provide capacity-development support to non-United Nations partner organizations. The projected increase of \$62,700 compared with 2019 reflects mainly the increase in requests for electoral assistance by Member States.

Subprogramme 3 Security Council affairs

3.106 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$6,803,700 and reflect a net decrease of \$51,900 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.19 and figure 3.XI.

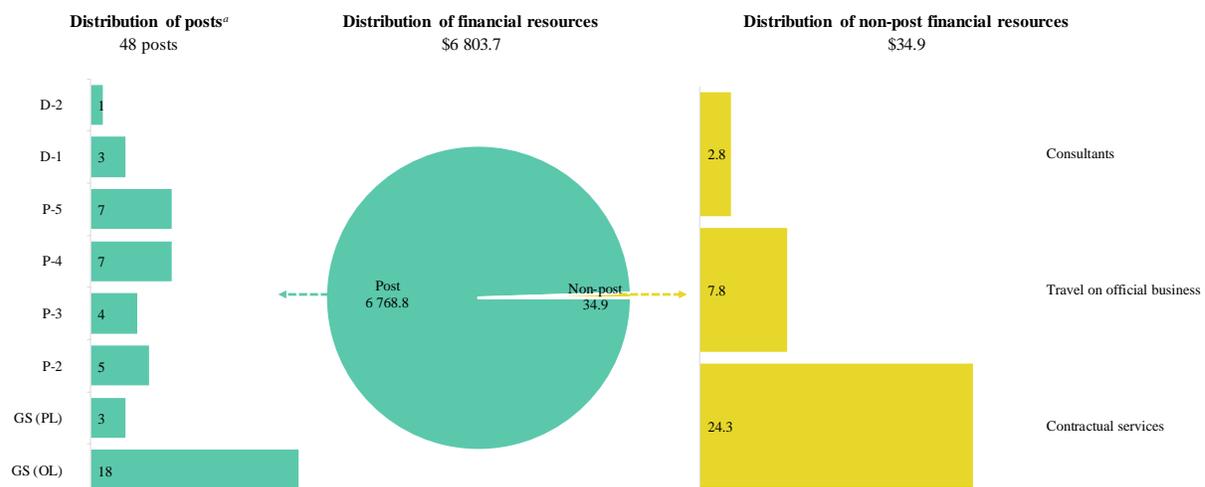
Table 3.19
Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total		
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	7 085.9	6 768.8	–	–	–	–	–	6 768.8
Non-post	12.4	86.8	–	–	(51.9)	(51.9)	(59.8)	34.9
Total	7 098.4	6 855.6	–	–	(51.9)	(51.9)	(0.8)	6 803.7
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		27	–	–	–	–	–	27
General Service and related		21	–	–	–	–	–	21
Total		48	–	–	–	–	–	48

Figure 3.XI
Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

^a Includes 4 temporary posts (1 P-5, 3 GS (OL)).

3.107 The variance of \$51,900 reflects:

Other changes. The reduction of \$51,900 under non-post resources relates mainly to the discontinuation of resources for general temporary assistance for the drafting of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*.

3.108 The subprogramme is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$410,600, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would enable the subprogramme to meet the increasing demand from Member States for support, expert analysis and reporting on the contemporary work of the Security Council and the demand for information and training on the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies. The projected increase of \$19,600 compared with 2019 reflects mainly the expected increase in extrabudgetary resources.

Subprogramme 4 Decolonization

3.109 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$801,800 and reflect no resource change compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.20 and figure 3.XII.

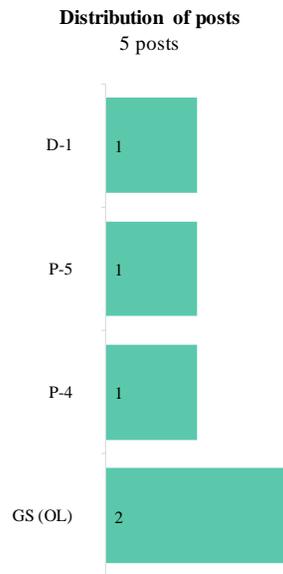
Table 3.20

Subprogramme 4: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

			Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	852.4	801.8	–	–	–	–	–	801.8
Total	852.4	801.8	–	–	–	–	–	801.8
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		3	–	–	–	–	–	3
General Service and related		2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Total		5	–	–	–	–	–	5

Figure 3.XII
Subprogramme 4: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)
 (Number of posts)



Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

3.110 The subprogramme is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$159,600, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would provide funding for the revamping of the United Nations website on decolonization to further enhance the dissemination of information on the topic, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/122](#). The resources would also finance the travel of staff to provide substantive support to the annual regional seminar on decolonization and visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories undertaken by the Special Committee. The projected increase of \$7,600 compared with 2019 reflects mainly the expected increase in extrabudgetary resources.

Subprogramme 5 **Question of Palestine**

3.111 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$2,661,200 and reflects a net decrease of \$102,400 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.21 and figures 3.XIII and 3.XIV.

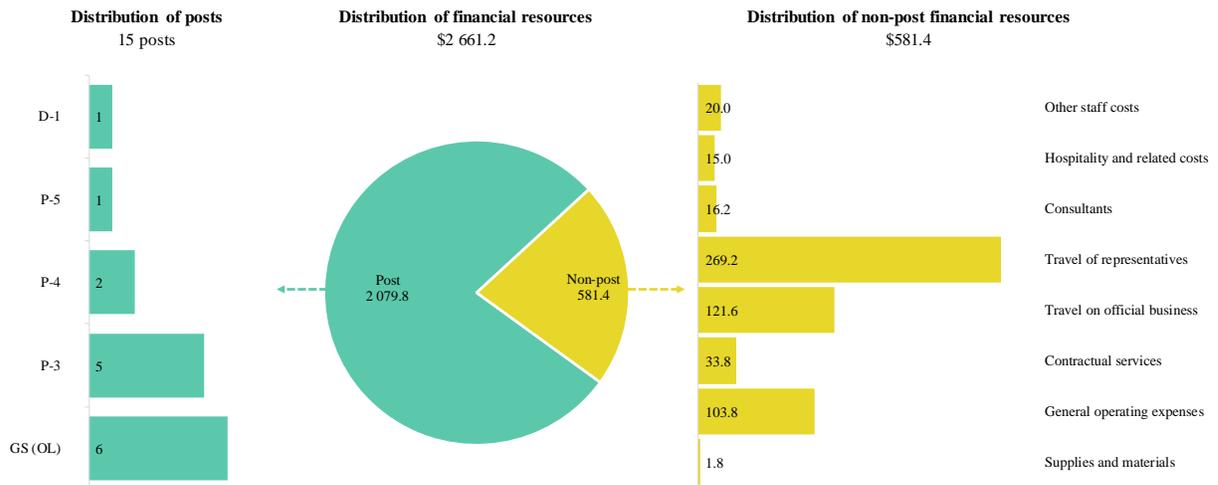
Table 3.21
Subprogramme 5: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure							
Post	2 052.3	2 079.8	–	–	–	–	2 079.8
Non-post	528.2	683.8	–	–	(102.4)	(102.4)	581.4
Total	2 580.5	2 763.6	–	–	(102.4)	(102.4)	2 661.2
Post resources by category							
Professional and higher		9	–	–	–	–	9
General Service and related		6	–	–	–	–	6
Total		15	–	–	–	–	15

Figure 3.XIII
Subprogramme 5: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

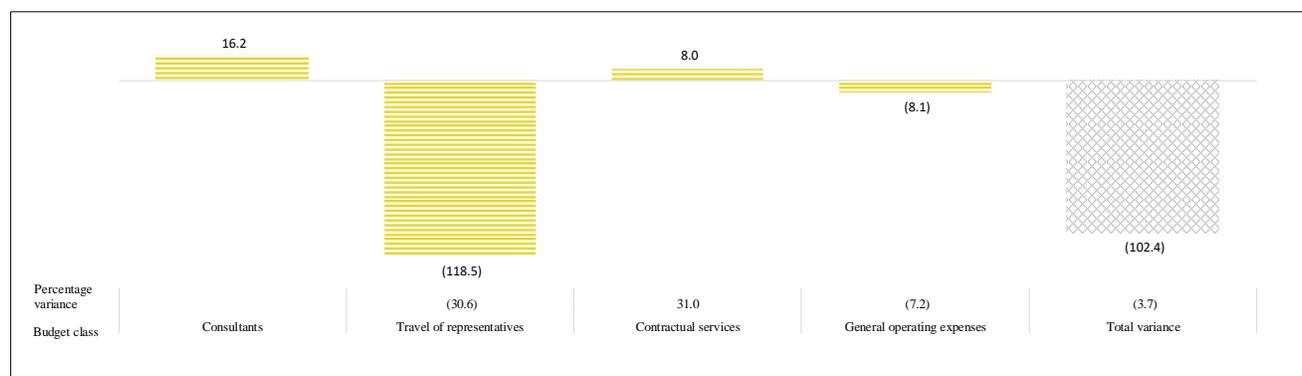


Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

Figure 3.XIV

Subprogramme 5: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



3.112 The variance of \$102,400 reflects:

Other changes. The net decrease of \$102,400 under non-post resources relates mainly to a reduction under travel of representatives (\$118,500) and reflects the planned holding of meetings in closer proximity to regional participants, partly offset by increased resources under consultants (\$16,200) to conduct a study on compatibility between legislation of the State of Palestine and human rights conventions signed by the State of Palestine. The proposed changes also reflect the redeployment of resources within the subprogramme, to better support operational requirements for 2020.

3.113 The subprogramme is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$42,000, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would provide for the travel of members of civil society organizations, in particular from Palestinian and Israeli civil society, to events and international meetings organized under the auspices of the Division for Palestinian Rights. The projected increase of \$2,000 compared with 2019 reflects mainly the expected increase in extrabudgetary resources.

Subprogramme 6 Peacebuilding Support Office

3.114 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$3,470,300 and reflect a net increase of \$93,400 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.22 and figures 3.XV and 3.XVI.

Table 3.22

Subprogramme 6: evolution of financial and post resources

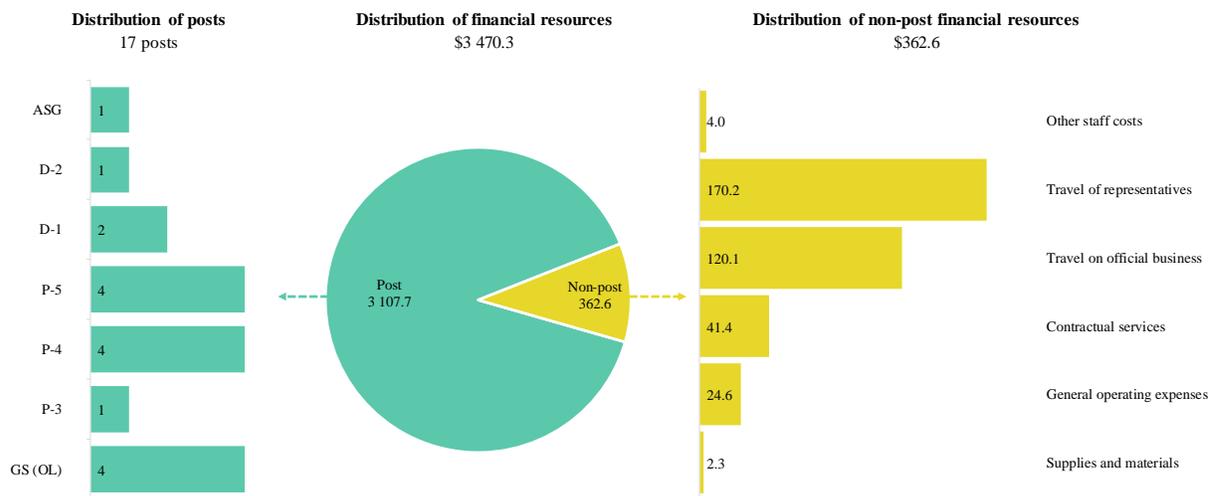
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)	
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total		
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	2 662.6	2 995.7	112.0	–	–	112.0	3.7	3 107.7
Non-post	306.7	381.2	–	–	(18.6)	(18.6)	(4.9)	362.6
Total	2 969.3	3 376.9	112.0	–	(18.6)	93.4	2.8	3 470.3

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		13	–	–	–	–	–	13
General Service and related		4	–	–	–	–	–	4
Total		17	–	–	–	–	–	17

Figure 3.XV
Subprogramme 6: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

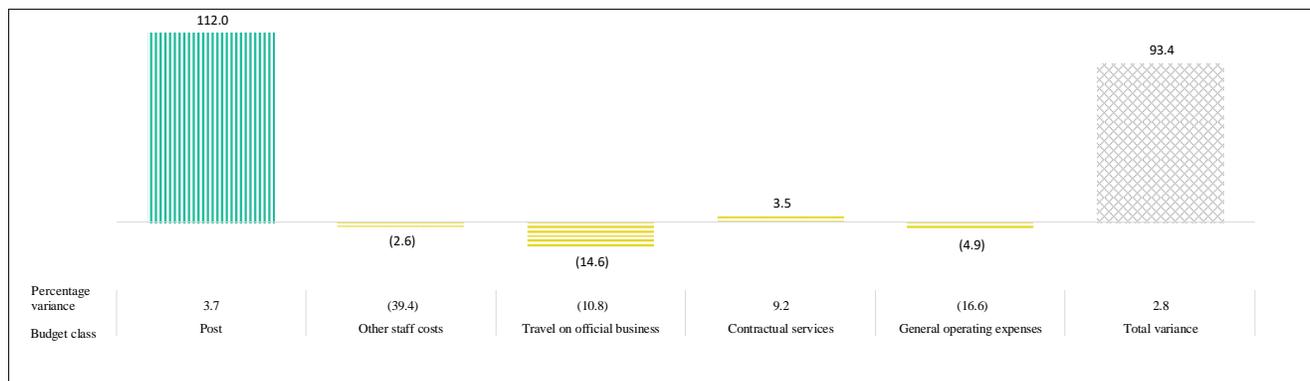
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

Figure 3.XVI
Subprogramme 6: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



- 3.115 The variance of \$93,400 reflects:
- (a) **Technical adjustments.** The increase of \$112,000 under post resources reflects the budgeting at continuing vacancy rates of one post of Principal Political Affairs Officer (D-1), which was established on 1 January 2019, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/262 C;
 - (b) **Other changes.** The net decrease of \$18,600 under non-post resources reflects mainly reductions under travel on official business (\$14,600) as a result of improved travel planning. Reductions under general operating expenses (\$4,900) and other staff costs (\$2,600), partly offset by increases under contractual services (\$3,500), reflect the redeployment of resources within the subprogramme, to better support operational requirements for 2020.
- 3.116 The subprogramme is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$5,331,000, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would support financing of 9 posts, including posts in the Financing for Peacebuilding Branch, which is responsible for the management of the Peacebuilding Fund, and associated operational costs. The extrabudgetary resources for 2020 reflect no change compared with 2019.

Subprogramme 7 Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

- 3.117 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$368,900 and reflect a net increase of \$99,400 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in table 3.23 and figures 3.XVII and 3.XVIII.

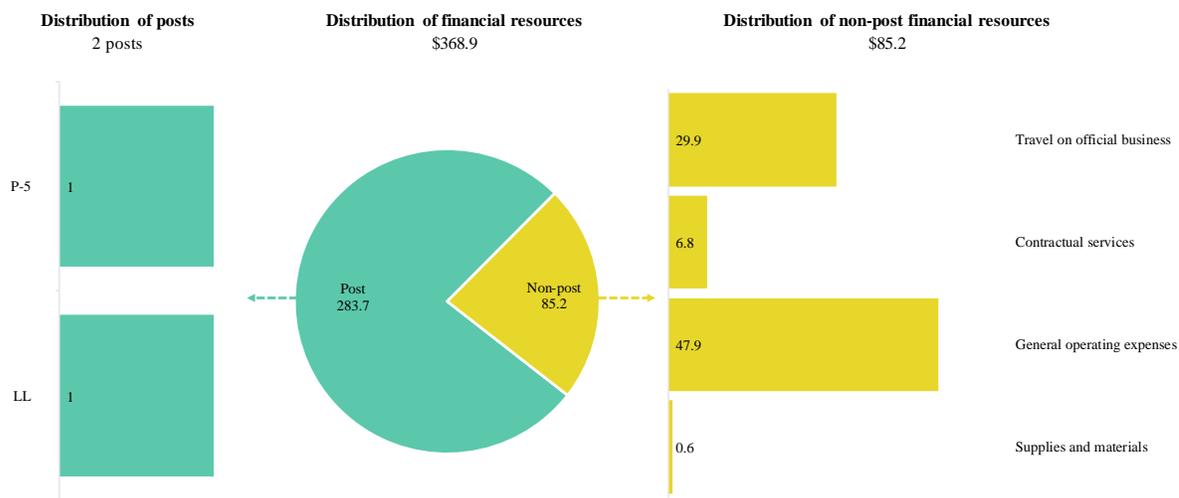
Table 3.23
Subprogramme 7: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes					2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	–	154.5	129.2	–	–	129.2	83.6	283.7
Non-post	–	115.0	(29.8)	–	–	(29.8)	(25.9)	85.2
Total	–	269.5	99.4	–	–	99.4	36.9	368.9
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		1	–	–	–	–	–	1
General Service and related		1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Total		2	–	–	–	–	–	2

Figure 3.XVII
Subprogramme 7: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

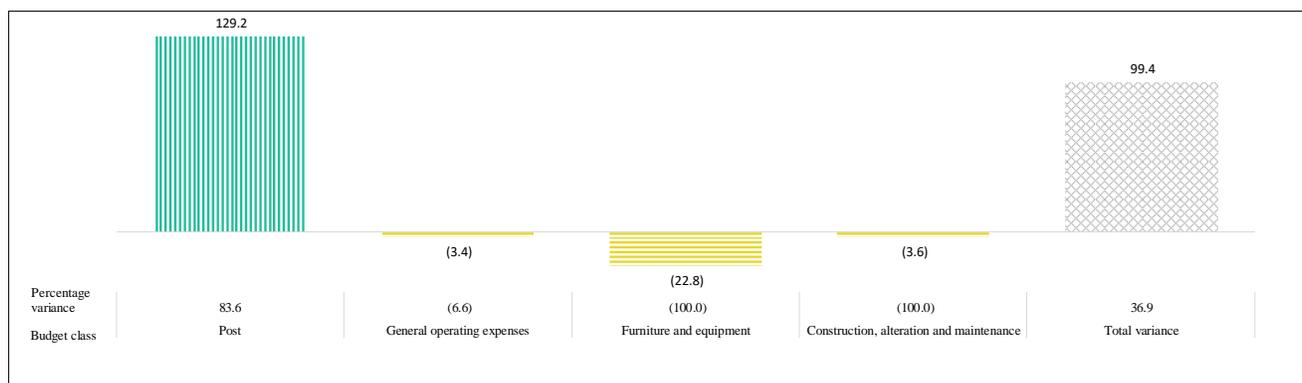
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviation: LL, Local level.

Figure 3.XVIII
Subprogramme 7: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



3.118 The variance of \$99,400 reflects:

Technical adjustments. The increase of \$129,200 under post resources reflects budgeting adjustments for the two posts in the United Nations liaison office to the League of Arab States (1 P-5, 1 Local level) at continuing vacancy rates (\$129,200), established effective 1 January 2019 pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/267. That increase is partly offset by a decrease of \$29,800 under non-post resources reflecting the discontinuation of non-recurrent resources budgeted for 2019, which was the first year of operations of the liaison office, under general operating expenses (\$3,400), furniture and equipment (\$22,800) and construction, alteration and maintenance (\$3,600).

Programme support

3.119 The programme support component comprises the Executive Office of the Department. The Executive Office provides central administrative, managerial and programme support necessary for the implementation of the mandated activities of the Department. It assists the Under-Secretary-General in the preparation of the proposed annual programme plans, the preparation and monitoring of the implementation of the programme budget, the management of trust funds and extrabudgetary resources, relevant support services for the efficient utilization of human resources and the planning, control and coordination of requirements related to general office administration. In addition, it provides administrative and logistical support to a number of special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General and to special political missions. The Executive Office also handles the Department's information technology needs, including the maintenance and upgrading of computer equipment and user applications.

3.120 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$2,639,800 and reflect a net decrease of \$147,600 compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figures 3.XIX to 3.XXI and table 3.24.

Figure 3.XIX
Resources for programme support as a percentage of the regular budget

(Millions of United States dollars)

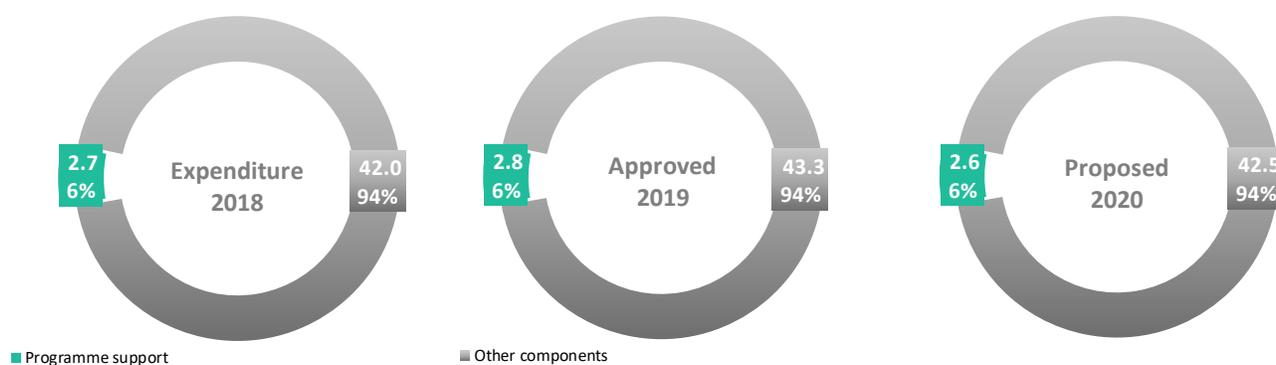


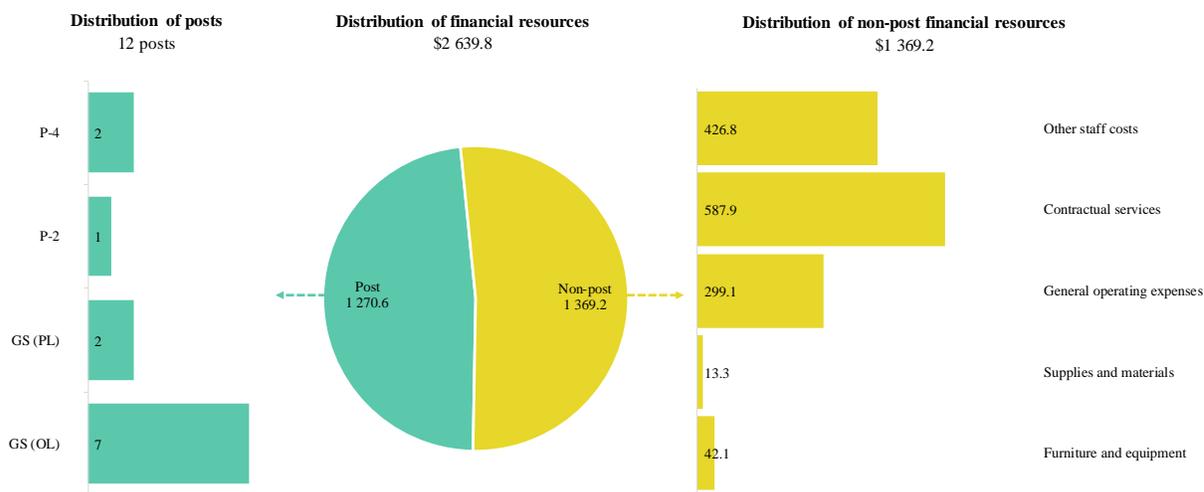
Table 3.24
Programme support: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Changes				2020 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure							
Post	1 506.4	1 270.6	–	–	–	–	1 270.6
Non-post	1 230.2	1 516.8	–	–	(147.6)	(147.6)	1 369.2
Total	2 736.7	2 787.4	–	–	(147.6)	(147.6)	(5.3)
Post resources by category							
Professional and higher		3	–	–	–	–	3
General Service and related		9	–	–	–	–	9
Total		12	–	–	–	–	12

Figure 3.XX
Programme support: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

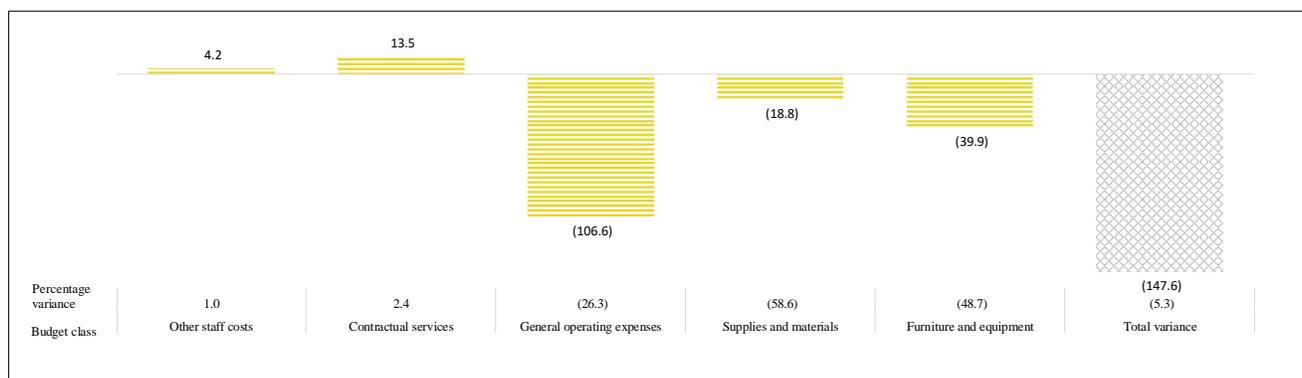
(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); GS (PL), General Service (Principal level).

Figure 3.XXI
Programme support: variance between proposed resources for 2020 and appropriation for 2019, by budget class

(Thousands of United States dollars)



3.121 The variance of \$147,600 reflects:

Other changes. The decrease of \$147,600 relates to reductions under non-post resources, mainly under general operating expenses (\$106,600) and furniture and equipment (\$39,900), reflecting efforts to rationalize and manage resources more prudently while taking into account past expenditures.

3.122 The programme support component is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$2,443,800, as reflected in table 3.8. The resources would fund 10 posts that support the execution of projects under the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs multi-year appeal programme for its Divisions. The projected increase of \$116,400 compared with 2019 reflects the expected increase in extrabudgetary resources.

II. Special political missions

Resource requirements: \$643,875,000

- 3.123 The proposed resource requirements for the 37 special political missions for 2020 amount to \$643,875,000, which would be supplemented by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$15,344,400, as reflected in annex III. These resources would allow for the full, efficient and effective implementation of the mandates of the special political missions. Further details on the proposed resources for 2020 are contained in the relevant reports of the Secretary-General on the special political missions ([A/74/6 \(Sect. 3\)/Add.1-6](#)).

III. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process



Foreword

Shortly after taking up my post in Jerusalem in April 2015, I witnessed the severe destruction and human suffering caused by the 2014 war in Gaza. I met with children whose lives had been shaped by the horror of repeated armed conflicts, crippling closures and over a decade of Hamas control. I visited Israeli communities who live in fear of rocket attacks and terror from Gaza-based militants. Meanwhile, in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, we see the continuation of illegal Israeli settlement activity, limitations on Palestinian development and violence. These facts, coupled with the stalled prospect of reviving the peace process, have led to the loss of hope on all sides. Incitement and the language of fear breed anger among the population. These are tough times for those who want to advance peace and a sustainable solution. The status quo eats away at the prospect of peace and undermines the legitimate aspiration of the Palestinian people for statehood.

25 years after the signing of the Oslo Accords, the violence is continuing amid widespread regional turmoil, increased donor fatigue and the absence of a political horizon to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. These worrying dynamics have led to despair and increased volatility in the situation on the ground.

The path forward is clear and has not changed; it is the return to meaningful negotiations to end the occupation and bring a just, lasting and comprehensive resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, based on two States, Israel and Palestine, living side by side in peace and security, with Jerusalem as the capital of both States, based on the 1967 lines and in line with relevant United Nations resolutions.

As we work with our partners to remove the obstacles to reviving this prospect, the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process has also focused on more immediate tasks: preventing war in Gaza and supporting intra-Palestinian reconciliation. These challenges require steadfastness and what some may call irrational optimism. While we focus on these complex political endeavours, my Deputy Special Coordinator continues to lead the humanitarian and development work of the United Nations country team, responding to the needs of the most vulnerable and ensuring that no one is left behind.

Our shared goal remains to alleviate people's suffering, restore hope and trust, overcome the current impasse and refocus on returning to meaningful negotiations with the goal of a just, lasting and comprehensive resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. I believe that this proposal will support the Office's work towards achieving this vision.

(Signed) Nickolay E. Mladenov
United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 3.124 The Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process is responsible for serving as the Organization's focal point for the Middle East peace process, for ensuring the coordinated work of the United Nations system for an adequate response to the needs of the Palestinian people and for mobilizing financial, technical and economic assistance. The mandate continues to be guided by relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions relating to the Middle East peace process, including Assembly resolutions [48/213](#) and [49/88](#) and Council resolutions [1860 \(2009\)](#) and [2334 \(2016\)](#). The unresolved Israeli-Palestinian conflict adds to the turmoil in the Middle East and continues to threaten international peace and security. As violence and tensions continue to simmer in Gaza and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the Office continues to engage diplomatically to mitigate tangible security threats and prevent armed conflict, address the profound humanitarian consequences and engage the parties and the international community with a view to making political progress towards a two-State solution.

Alignment with the Charter of the United Nations, the Sustainable Development Goals and other transformative agendas

- 3.125 The mandates of the Office guide it in producing the respective deliverables, which contribute to the attainment of the objective. The objective is aligned with the Organization's purposes to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace; and to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purposes stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter are embodied by the Sustainable Development Goals. The objective, and therefore the deliverables, is aligned with a number of Sustainable Development Goals, as reflected in paragraphs 3.139 and 3.140.
- 3.126 The objectives of the subprogrammes are also aligned with the following transformative agendas: the Action for Peacekeeping initiative, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2436 \(2018\)](#); the sustaining peace agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#) and General Assembly resolution [70/262](#); the women and peace and security agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#); and the youth and peace and security, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#).

Recent developments

- 3.127 In 2018, funding gaps in United Nations agencies, in particular the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), the key service provider to the Palestine refugee population, against a backdrop of an already severely underfunded humanitarian response, created an operational crisis that rippled through many programmes serving the Palestinian community. Through a global campaign of fundraising and diplomatic outreach, coupled with internal cost saving measures, UNRWA was able to overcome the funding shortfall and keep services operational throughout the year. Resources were also mobilized and reallocated from longer-term United Nations programmes to emergency interventions to minimize disruptions to assistance.
- 3.128 The year also saw significant security incidents and an escalation of the conflict. Weekly, unprecedented, organized protests in the context of the "Great Return March" began at the end of

March and continued throughout the year at the Gaza perimeter fence. While most demonstrations remained peaceful, some militants placed improvised explosive devices, attempted to breach the fence and sent incendiary kites and balloons across the border, causing fires that damaged agricultural fields, resulting in substantial financial losses. The Israel Defense Forces responded with riot dispersal means and live fire, resulting in 195 Palestinians killed and over 7,000 wounded by live ammunition. As a result of the demonstrations, one member of the Israeli security forces was killed and six others were injured. A series of violent exchanges of rocket and mortar fire launched from Gaza and Israeli air strikes also brought Israel and Hamas to the brink of war on at least three occasions. In August, diplomatic efforts, including by the Office, established a temporary period of calm, although violence continued. One of the fiercest exchanges of fire since the 2014 Gaza conflict occurred in mid-November. On 11 November, in an exchange of fire following the discovery of an undercover Israel Defense Forces unit in Gaza, seven members of the Hamas military wing and an Israel Defense Forces officer were killed. Militants in Gaza immediately launched 18 rockets and mortars in response. In the 24 hours that followed, some 450 projectiles were fired indiscriminately towards Israel, more than in the entire period since the 2014 conflict, killing one and injuring 17. The Israel Defense Forces responded by striking 160 targets identified as militant sites, killing 14 Palestinians and injuring more than 20. Diplomatic efforts once again prevented a prolonged escalation. However, the risk of violent conflict will remain without an improvement in the fundamental conditions in Gaza.

- 3.129 The situation in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, remained relatively tense, with regular clashes between Palestinians and the Israeli security forces, daily search and arrest operations and other incidents, resulting in a number of Palestinian fatalities and injuries. The planning and building of new settlement housing units in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, also continued unabated, while Israeli authorities continued their policy of demolishing and seizing Palestinian-owned structures in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, citing the absence of building permits, which are almost impossible for Palestinians to obtain.
- 3.130 Intra-Palestinian tensions have also intensified as the Palestinian Authority has imposed measures on Gaza to pressure Hamas, while reconciliation negotiations facilitated by Egypt and supported by the Office have stalled. As a result, the intra-Palestinian divide remains and continues to be a fundamental impediment towards reaching a broader Israeli-Palestinian peace based on a two-State solution.
- 3.131 Moreover, these events are unfolding in a region racked by a range of other major conflicts.

Strategy and external factors for 2020

- 3.132 In the absence of the resumption of final status negotiations, the Office will continue to focus on supporting the Palestinian population, including through positive steps that can rebuild trust and create conditions for resuming meaningful negotiations. The Office's activities will be aimed at promoting positive change on a wide range of issues, including by:
- (a) Preventing escalation and conflict and finding a sustainable solution to the dire humanitarian and economic situation, or, if another armed conflict breaks out, supporting or leading humanitarian and subsequent reconstruction efforts in Gaza;
 - (b) Supporting intra-Palestinian reconciliation efforts, including the meaningful return of the Palestinian Authority to assume responsibilities in Gaza;
 - (c) Supporting the Palestinian Authority in strengthening the Palestinian State-building agenda, its institutions, economy and service delivery to the people, especially in the light of various diplomatic pressures on the Palestinian Authority and reduced donor funding to the Palestinians;
 - (d) Mitigating political and operational risks posed by the volatile environment by continuing to strengthen relationships on the ground, including with Israel, the Palestine Liberation

- Organization and the Palestinian Authority, donors, the United Nations country team and civil society counterparts;
- (e) Promoting compliance with relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions by urging the parties and their political, religious and community leaders to prevent violence, incitement to violence and other provocative actions on the ground; supporting the cessation of settlement activities, and of demolitions and evictions; and promoting the undertaking of significant policy changes, especially the transfer of greater responsibilities to the Palestinian Authority in Area C of the West Bank, to preserve the prospect of a negotiated peace based on a two-State solution;
 - (f) Enhancing the engagement of regional and international actors on the broader peace efforts and preserving the broad consensus on the two-State solution and internationally-recognized parameters on the final status issues.
- 3.133 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2020 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) The two-State solution remains viable and there is political will on the part of all parties to maintain a ceasefire in Gaza and continue engaging in meaningful political dialogue, and to cooperate with the Office and the United Nations country team in the performance of their functions;
 - (b) There is adequate political support from Member States and financial support from donors;
 - (c) The security situation in the area is favourable;
 - (d) The political and security environment in Gaza allows for the implementation of humanitarian and development programmes;
 - (e) There is positive progress towards Palestinian reconciliation and national unity;
 - (f) The parties take tangible steps to improve the situation on the ground, as outlined in the recommendations of the Quartet report of 1 July 2016 ([S/2016/595](#), annex).
- 3.134 The Office integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. For example, the United Nations country team, under the leadership of the Deputy Special Coordinator/Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, commemorate the annual International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Human Rights Day and the period between those dates through the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence campaign. The Office and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) also co-lead the drafting of the annual report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women. Additionally, on 27 November 2018, the Special Coordinator delivered a keynote speech at the first major conference organized by Women Wage Peace, the largest women's civil society grass-roots movement in Israel, with more than 40,000 members. The conference was attended by a large audience, including women and youth activists, to hear from diplomats, politicians and policy experts on issues related to conflict resolution in Israel/Palestine and the Middle East region.
- 3.135 With regard to cooperation with other entities, as the only envoy on the ground, the Office serves as a participant in the Quartet, driving policy formulation and providing timely political support. The Office will continue to support efforts by the Quartet to engage the parties and the international community to make progress towards a two-State solution. In addition, the Office will remain an active participant of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians and will continue to report to the Committee twice a year. Furthermore, the Office will continue to coordinate with other Committee members, including the two parties, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Office of the Quartet, to ensure the efficacy of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee forum in recommending tangible actions to both parties to bring about positive changes for their populations.

- 3.136 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, the Office leads the coordination of the 24 United Nations resident and non-resident agencies, funds and programmes in responding to the development and humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people. This leading role encompasses facilitating inter-agency collaboration to maximize impact through meetings of the United Nations country team, identifying opportunities for joint programming and actively promoting and participating in sectoral and thematic working groups. The Office coordinates with regional United Nations entities, for example, the Development Coordination Office and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, to leverage available expertise and identify opportunities for collaboration to respond to evolving development and humanitarian needs.
- 3.137 The Office also facilitates the functioning of the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism, established through an agreement between the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, which plays a crucial role in the import of material that is otherwise restricted by Israel but that is necessary to address the needs of the people in Gaza.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018



1. Objective

- 3.138 The objective, to which the Office contributes, is to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and improve the socioeconomic conditions of the Palestinian people.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.139 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to significantly reduce all forms of violence and strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels to prevent violence.
- 3.140 The objective is also aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 17, which is to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to mobilize additional financial resources from multiple sources, enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, enhance policy coherence for sustainable development and enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Addressing the crisis in Gaza and strengthening the foundations of the Palestinian State

A further deterioration of the overall political, humanitarian and economic situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory was witnessed in 2018.

In the West Bank, the environment has been characterized by continued settlement expansion and demolitions, territorial fragmentation, the inability of the Palestinian Government to access Area C and East Jerusalem, limited access to natural resources and dwindling financial support from international partners.

In Gaza, this deterioration has been felt most acutely, with a humanitarian crisis causing a breakdown in service delivery, violence and increasing tensions, with the highest number of casualties since 2014 and a prevailing intra-Palestinian political divide. The prevailing sense of despair, compounded by the closure regime, has fuelled the regular demonstrations along the fence between Gaza and Israel that began in March 2018.

These events have included protests as well as violent acts from both sides, which resulted in multiple deaths. This escalation brought Israel and Hamas to the closest point of renewed conflict since 2014.

In 2018, the resumption of final status negotiations to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remained elusive. The Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process continued its efforts to realize a two-State solution while strengthening the Palestinian State-building agenda and its institutions, economy and service delivery to the people. This was conducted through the systematic engagement of the Special Coordinator and his Deputy and through outreach and use of their 'good offices' role with all key stakeholders, including through the Office's monthly briefings to the Security Council, to maintain consistent regional and international support to the Palestinian Authority and broader peace efforts.

The Office also took action to de-escalate the mounting tensions in Gaza, support Egyptian-led intra-Palestinian unity efforts and create the conditions for resuming meaningful negotiations to end the conflict. Most visibly, as one of the very few actors able to talk to all the parties involved in the Gaza crisis, teams from the Office, led by the Special Coordinator, conducted multiple missions to Gaza, the West Bank, Egypt and the Gulf States and held talks with Palestinian factions and other regional and international stakeholders to prevent another outbreak of hostilities, return to the 2014 ceasefire arrangements and promote concrete efforts to improve the humanitarian situation on the ground in Gaza. In support of these efforts, the Office devised a package of urgent interventions aimed at addressing the immediate needs of the population in the energy, water and sanitation, health care and economic sectors, which were endorsed by the Chair of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of International Assistance to Palestinians and the Middle East Quartet, who "expressed support for the United Nations' efforts to prevent further escalation, empower the legitimate Palestinian authorities in Gaza and address all humanitarian needs". It also concluded a review of the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism together with the Government of Israel and the Palestinian Authority, following which several adjustments were put in place aimed at improving the functionality, predictability and transparency of the Mechanism in the importation of critical materials into Gaza. The Office's monthly and ad hoc briefings to the Security Council were also instrumental in mobilizing broad international support for the Office's efforts to address the critical situation in Gaza.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is: (a) the continued preservation of broad international consensus on the importance of upholding the two-State solution and internationally recognized parameters on the final status issues as imperative to a sustainable solution to the conflict; (b) the absence of another outbreak of hostilities supported by increased humanitarian assistance to respond to the most urgent needs in Gaza; (c) the preservation



Children standing on remains of the staircase in their partially destroyed home in the Shuja'iyah neighbourhood of Gaza City. Children and families are still struggling to recover from the violence that engulfed Gaza for over seven weeks during July and August 2014. Source: United Nations Children's Fund

of broad consensus on the way forward in Gaza accompanied by the commitment of additional resources from international donors to support the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee package, specifically the increase in electricity supply and its impact on the humanitarian and economic situations; and (d) increased operational space to address urgent humanitarian and economic interventions and sustain Egyptian-led Palestinian unity efforts.

Evidence of the result includes: (a) consistent statements by Member States in the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee in support of the two-State solution and internationally recognized parameters on the final status issues; (b) the Office's interventions to address the situation in Gaza and the mobilization of additional resources in support of that objective. Significant progress on those interventions was made in 2018, specifically through the import of fuel by the United Nations for the Gaza power plant, greatly increasing the electricity supply in Gaza and thereby improving conditions on the ground; and (c) the maintenance of a fragile calm between Israel and Gaza.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.141 A planned result for 2018, which is a coordinated response to the humanitarian and development needs of the Palestinian people and institutions, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by an increase in the number of coordinated activities carried out by the United Nations system in accordance with the integrated strategic framework, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the consolidated appeals process. The Office supported the implementation of 15 joint activities and programmes, meeting the target set for the biennium during the first year.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Improving the situation in Gaza and advancing peace efforts

In 2018, as illustrated above, the Office contributed to the prevention of an outbreak of hostilities between Israel and Gaza through its multifaceted diplomatic and humanitarian efforts, including by devising a package of urgent interventions aimed at addressing the immediate needs of the population and supporting Egyptian-led efforts to advance intra-Palestinian unity.

Challenge and response

The challenge was to ensure delivery of a package of interventions in a coordinated manner while supporting Egyptian-led Palestinian unity efforts.

In response, for 2020, the Office will focus on improving the situation on the ground in Gaza to establish a political horizon to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of a two-State solution, through expanded implementation, in conjunction with the Office's partners, of the humanitarian and economic package of interventions for Gaza endorsed by the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and support for Egyptian-led Palestinian unity efforts.

In support of the expanded implementation, the Office will intensify advocacy efforts, in conjunction with partners, to fundraise in a more targeted manner, including by demonstrating the link between investments in humanitarian and development interventions and sustainable long-term results. The Office will also enhance the project management capacity of the United Nations in Gaza with personnel dedicated to identifying and unblocking political barriers to the implementation of the humanitarian and economic interventions endorsed by the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is a sustained calm and an overall improvement in humanitarian and development indicators, thus creating an environment for progress on intra-Palestinian unity, leading to the full return of the Palestinian Government to Gaza.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include return to the 2014 ceasefire arrangements between Israel and Gaza; a consistent energy supply in Gaza; the cessation of measures imposed by the Palestinian Authority against Gaza (for example, the non-payment of salaries to civil servants in Gaza); and significant easing of the closure regime

on Gaza, with the ultimate goal of lifting the closures, including an increased number of exit permits granted by Israel and increased imports and exports, as well as a relaxation of the list of items that the Government of Israel classifies as dual use.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

2018	2019	2020
Availability of electricity in Gaza for 7.3 hours per day on average; and no formal understanding reached on improving the situation in Gaza and preventing an escalation between Israel and Gaza	Increase in the availability of electricity in Gaza; and advancement of discussions with all concerned parties to return to the 2014 ceasefire arrangements between Israel and Gaza	Increase in the availability of electricity in Gaza; and return to the 2014 ceasefire arrangements between Israel and Gaza

3.142 The following General Assembly resolutions comprise the main mandates entrusted to the Office: resolution 48/213, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure the coordinated work of the United Nations system for an adequate response to the needs of the Palestinian people and to mobilize financial, technical and economic assistance; and resolution 49/88, in which the Assembly welcomed the appointment of the Special Coordinator. The Office will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.143 Table 3.25 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.25

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 <i>planned</i>	2018 <i>actual</i>	2019 <i>planned</i>	2020 <i>planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	0	1	0	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	12	17	12	12
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Technical materials (number of materials)	7	7	7	7
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Good offices				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials				
External and media relations				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variations between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.144 The variance in parliamentary documentation was driven by the issuance of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) (S/2018/614).
- 3.145 The variance in substantive services for meetings (17 actual compared with 12 planned) was driven mainly by the increased number of Security Council briefings and consultations on the situation in the Middle East, owing to the heightened demand by the Council for the Office to report on developments concerning the humanitarian, economic and political crisis unfolding in Gaza.

Variations between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

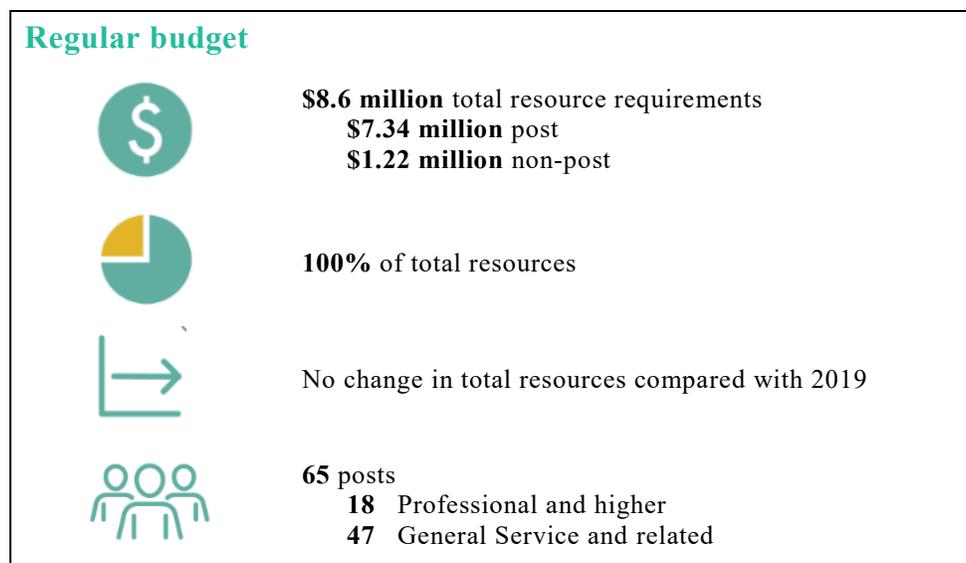
- 3.146 The variance in parliamentary documentation is driven by the planned issuance in 2020 of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#).

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020

Overview

3.147 The total resource requirements for 2020, comprising solely the regular budget, are reflected in figure 3.XXII and table 3.26.

Figure 3.XXII
2020 in numbers



Note: Estimates before recosting.

Overview of resources for the regular budget

3.148 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in table 3.26. Further details are provided below. The proposed resource level provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

3.149 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution [72/219](#), the Office of the Special Coordinator is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. In 2018, highlights were the reduction in printing and photocopying and the reduction in energy consumption due to the installation of an environmentally friendly heating system in renovated offices and inverter-type air conditioning systems in newly opened areas. In 2020, the Office will further reduce its use of photocopy paper, printing habits and fuel consumption.

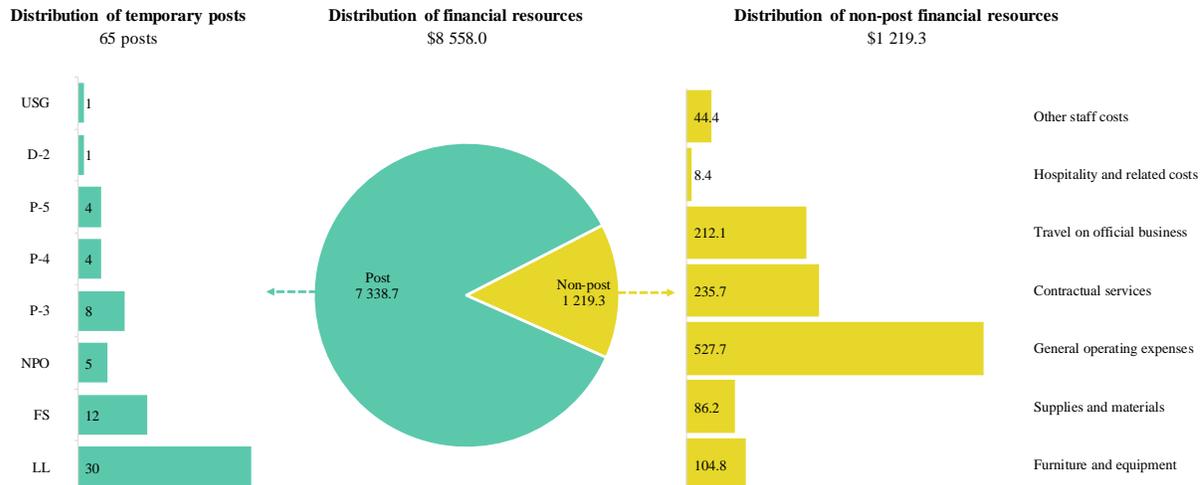
Table 3.26
Programme of work: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Change					2020 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2020 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure										
Post	7 741.2	7 338.7	–	–	–	–	–	7 338.7	300.1	7 638.8
Non-post	1 176.7	1 219.3	–	–	–	–	–	1 219.3	21.2	1 240.5
Total	8 917.9	8 558.0	–	–	–	–	–	8 558.0	321.3	8 879.3
Post resources by category										
Professional and higher		18	–	–	–	–	–	18		
General Service and related		47	–	–	–	–	–	47		
Total		65	–	–	–	–	–	65		

3.150 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$8,558,000 and reflect no change compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figure 3.XXIII.

Figure 3.XXIII
Programme of work: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)



Abbreviations: FS, Field Service; LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; USG, Under- Secretary-General.

3.151 In the Coordination Section, the redeployment of one post of Coordination Officer (National Professional Officer) from Ramallah to Jerusalem is proposed, to enable the Officer to better carry out his or her functions within the existing structure of the Section, which is based mostly in Jerusalem, and to support the Deputy Special Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator in coordinating the development activities of the 22-member United Nations country team, a role which is also carried out primarily in Jerusalem, at the headquarters level. That role also requires a specific focus on the East Jerusalem file, as the core function of the position is to work on the implementation of the United Nations engagement strategy on East Jerusalem. The

engagement strategy is the first area-based strategy of its kind, and the incumbent will be required to coordinate between the members of the country team, civil society and relevant national authorities in Jerusalem in their responses to the unique development challenges facing East Jerusalem communities.

IV. United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Foreword

I am pleased to say that even in such a protracted conflict as the Israeli-Palestinian one, positive developments and achievements are possible. The United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory has managed to achieve constructive cooperation by both sides and made significant progress in the implementation of its mandate.

By 2020, General Assembly resolution [ES-10/17](#) would be practically implemented in relation to the work of the Office of the Register of Damage in the occupied Palestinian territory, and the focus will be shifted towards the legal processing and review of the claims.

In addition to the main purpose of the Register of Damage, which is to record the material damage caused by the construction of the wall, the huge volume of meticulously collected and verified information may also be used as a catalyst in support of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process. The information contained in the Register may be useful in the search for solutions to the most contentious problems, such as land and the border.

(Signed) Vladimir **Goryayev**
Executive Director, Office of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by
the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 3.152 The United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory is responsible for recording, in documentary form, the damage caused to all natural and legal persons concerned as a result of the construction of the wall by Israel in the occupied Palestinian territory, including in and around East Jerusalem. The mandate derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including resolution [ES-10/17](#).
- 3.153 Since 2008, when the Office of the Register of Damage became operational and commenced outreach and claim intake in the occupied Palestinian territory, work has been completed in 264 of 269 communities, touching the lives of over 1.5 million Palestinians in the West Bank. Over two terabytes of impartial and verified information documents the material losses sustained by Palestinian people. Once completed, the Register of Damage may serve as a catalyst in support of the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

Alignment with the Charter of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.154 The mandates of the Register of Damage guides it in producing the respective deliverables, which contribute to the attainment of the objective. The objective is aligned with the Organization's purpose to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purposes stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter are embodied by the Sustainable Development Goals. The objective, and therefore the deliverables, is aligned with one Sustainable Development Goal, as reflected in paragraph 3.161.

Recent developments

- 3.155 In 2018, the political and security situation between Israel and the State of Palestine deteriorated significantly, causing restraints and delays to the outreach efforts and the claim intake process on the ground. In addition, raising extrabudgetary resources to fund the claim intake and outreach activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, which are supported entirely by extrabudgetary funds, proved to be increasingly difficult. This resulted in the necessity to significantly reduce the Office's team in the occupied Palestinian territory from 12 staff (1 international staff and 11 locally recruited staff) to 3 locally contracted personnel. Notwithstanding the above-mentioned difficulties, the Office successfully moved forward in the implementation of its mandate.

Strategy and external factors for 2020

- 3.156 It is expected that the claim intake activities will, by and large, be concluded by the end of 2019. The main focus of the Office of the Register of Damage from 2020 will be on the processing of claims, with the aim of making progress in eliminating a backlog of over 34,000 unprocessed claims. The Office will also continue with the collection of residual claims of individual claimants, as well as community and national claims. The Register of Damage will remain open for registration for the duration of existence of the wall in the occupied Palestinian territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, in line with resolution [ES-10/17](#). The establishment of the Register itself is a continuous

process, given the number of potential claims and the continued construction of the wall, which may result in new damage claims.

- 3.157 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2020 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) There is political will and cooperation on the part of all parties concerned;
 - (b) Extrabudgetary resources become available for funding the work of the team on the ground;
 - (c) The overall security situation in the West Bank and the region does not adversely affect stability, thus rendering it impossible to carry out the mandate of the Register of Damage in the occupied Palestinian territory.
- 3.158 The Office integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. For example, in the course of the outreach campaign, all female mayors and Chairs of local councils are invited to training events organized by the Office. In addition, consultations will be conducted with local women's committees in all communities in which outreach and claim intake activities are planned.
- 3.159 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, the Office of the Register of Damage cooperates closely with the United Nations Office for Project Services, which is the key provider of logistical, human and financial resources services in the implementation of outreach and claims collection activities funded by extrabudgetary resources. In addition, the Office of the Register of Damage benefits from close cooperation with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018



1. Objective

- 3.160 The objective, to which the Office of the Register of Damage contributes, is to establish and maintain a Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, thus contributing to the protection of the legal rights of the Palestinian people affected by the construction of the wall.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.161 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Approaching the finish line

By December 2018, 68,287 claims had been collected in 264 of 269 communities in the occupied Palestinian territory affected by the construction of the wall. In 2018 alone, 2,561 claims were collected, a number that surpasses the expected target for the biennium 2018–2019. As of 31 December 2018, 33,719 claims had been processed by the Office and reviewed by the Board of the Register of Damage. The claim intake activities were concluded in 2018 to a large extent. Therefore, the focus of the Office is shifting from taking claims from individuals who had suffered damage from the construction of the wall to the collection and review of national, community and any residual claims.

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is substantive progress in the collection, processing, review and registration of claims. In achieving its mandate, the Office of the Register of Damage is contributing to the protection of legal rights of the Palestinian people. Securing the constructive attitude of the parties concerned in the process of the implementation of the mandate contributed to preventing the further deterioration of the situation in the region.

Evidence of the result includes the number of additional claims collected, processed and reviewed in 2018 and the continued cooperation of the two principal parties with the Office.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.162 A planned result for 2018, which is the progressive collection and registration of damage claim forms, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved and surpassed in relation to the collection of claim forms, as evidenced by the number of claim forms collected (2,561 claims compared to an estimate of 500), and was partially achieved in relation to

the processing and review of claim forms, as evidenced by the number of claim forms processed and reviewed (3,411 compared to an estimate of 4,000) in 2018.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Gradual reduction of the backlog of the unreviewed collected claims

In 2018, the Office of the Register of Damage focused on two main areas: outreach, and the collection of damage claims and the processing and review of the claims with a view to their inclusion in the Register of Damage.

Since the outreach and claim intake activities will to a large extent be concluded in 2019, there has been a shift in the focus of the work of the Office towards the processing and review (target: 4,000 claims annually) of the collected, but not processed, claims safeguarded in the Office’s headquarters in Vienna. As of December 2018, the backlog of collected versus processed and reviewed claims amounted to over 34,000 claims. In 2020, the collection of public claims is expected to be completed.

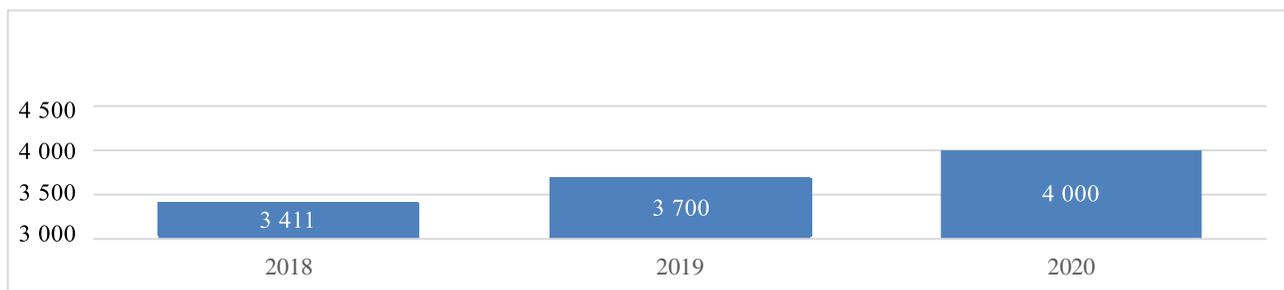
Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is the gradual reduction of the backlog of the unreviewed collected claims.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include the number of claims processed by the Office and reviewed by the Board of the Register of Damage (target: 4,000 claims annually), as shown in the table.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures: number of claims reviewed by the Board of the Register of Damage



3.163 The following General Assembly resolution comprises the main mandate entrusted to the Office: resolution [ES-10/17](#). The Office will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.164 Table 3.27 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.27

United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	–	8	–	4
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Databases and substantive digital materials				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variances between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.165 The variance in generation and transfer of knowledge was driven by seminars, workshops and training events, owing to the fact that the deliverable was not recorded in the framework for the biennium 2018–2019 as a planned deliverable but training was conducted.

Variances between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

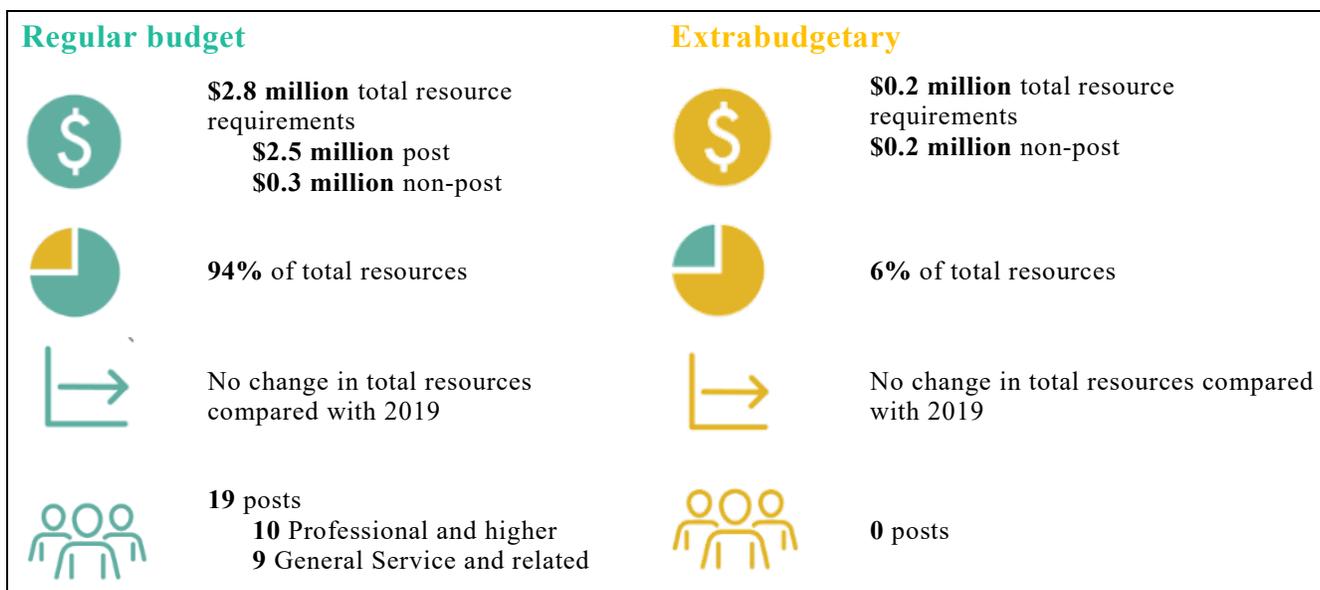
- 3.166 The variance in generation and transfer of knowledge is driven mainly by seminars, workshops and training events, owing to the fact that the deliverable was not recorded in the framework for the biennium 2018–2019 as a planned deliverable but training will be conducted.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020

Overview

3.167 The total resource requirements for 2020, comprising the regular budget and projected extrabudgetary resources, are reflected in figure 3.XXIV and table 3.28.

Figure 3.XXIV
2020 in numbers



Note: Estimates before recosting.

Table 3.28
Overview of financial and post resources by component and funding source

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Regular budget			Extrabudgetary			Total		
	2019 appropriation	2020 estimate (before recosting)	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance
Financial resources									
Programme of work	2 891.3	2 891.3	–	200.0	200.0	–	3 091.3	3 091.3	–
Total	2 891.3	2 891.3	–	200.0	200.0	–	3 091.3	3 091.3	–
Post resources									
Programme of work	19	19	–	–	–	–	19	19	–
Total	19	19	–	–	–	–	19	19	–

Overview of resources for the regular budget

3.168 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in table 3.29 and figure 3.XXV. Further details are provided below. The

proposed resource level would provide for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

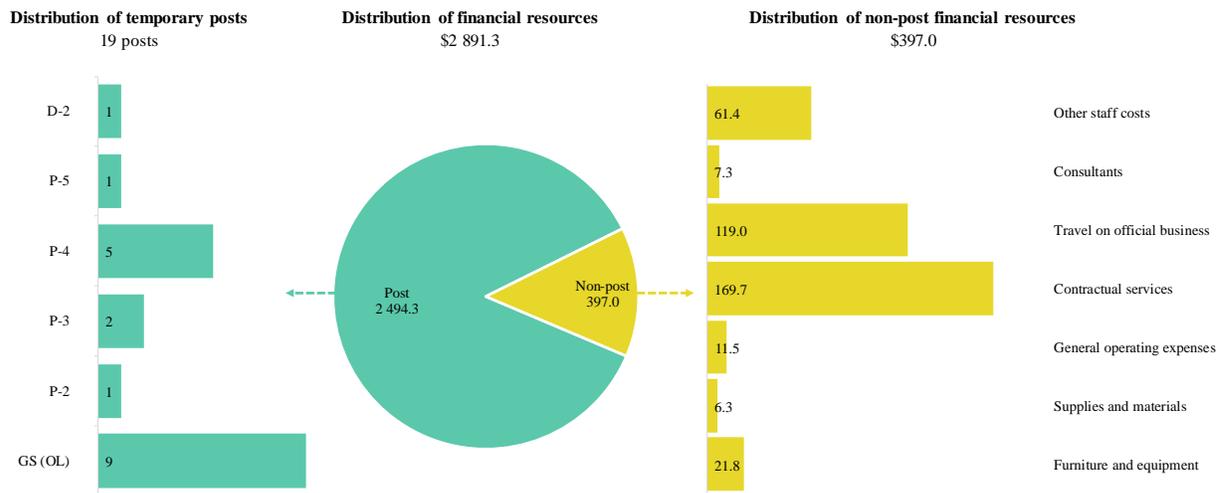
- 3.169 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution [72/219](#), the Office of the Register of Damage is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. In 2018, a highlight was the encouragement of staff to be mindful in the use of office resources, to use the recycling facilities available and to use the stairs rather than the elevators. In addition, the staff’s main working tool, the electronic database of the Register of Damage, drastically reduces the need to work with hardcopy documentation. In 2020, the Office will seek further ways to bring environmental sustainability to the forefront of its daily operations, including the further reduction of disposable office supplies.

Table 3.29
Programme of work: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Change				Total	Percentage	2020 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2020 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other						
Financial resources by main category of expenditure											
Post	2 426.2	2 494.3	–	–	–	–	–	2 494.3	102.6	2 596.9	
Non-post	342.7	397.0	–	–	–	–	–	397.0	6.6	403.6	
Total	2 768.9	2 891.3	–	–	–	–	–	2 891.3	109.2	3 000.5	
Post resources by category											
Professional and higher		10	–	–	–	–	–	10			
General Service and related		9	–	–	–	–	–	9			
Total		19	–	–	–	–	–	19			

Figure 3.XXV
Programme of work: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)



Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

- 3.170 The proposed non-post resources include \$32,300 under other staff costs for the employment of three members of the Board of Directors of the Register of Damage, budgeted at the D-2 level on a when-actually-employed basis. As stipulated in resolution General Assembly resolution [ES-10/17](#) (para. 6 (f)), the Board is to meet at least four times each year at the Office of the Register of Damage to determine which claims should be included in the Register of Damage.
- 3.171 The Office is supported by extrabudgetary resources, estimated at \$200,000, as reflected in table 3.28. The resources would provide for the employment of three locally contracted staff to undertake claim intake and outreach activities in the occupied Palestinian territory.

V. United Nations Office to the African Union



Foreword

The African Union is the most important regional partner of the United Nations in peace and security, development and human rights on the African continent. The complex peace and security challenges faced in Africa are such that neither the United Nations nor the African Union can address the challenges on their own. The partnership is therefore based on the need for collaboration to effectively manage the challenges of achieving peace, security and development on the continent. The two organizations in their work together have demonstrated a commitment to developing a systematic, predictable and strategic partnership based on mutual respect, shared values and the leveraging of each other's comparative advantages.

Two framework documents, the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, signed in April 2017, and the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, signed in January 2018, guide the partnership towards closer collaboration, more regular exchange of information and coordinated actions.

The partnership includes frequent, constructive and collegial interactions and collaboration at all levels, from exchanges between the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to desk-to-desk cooperation at the working level. Particularly noteworthy is the increased trend towards joint field visits involving senior officials of both organizations, most recently to the Central African Republic, Chad, the Niger and South Sudan. Such missions foster a shared understanding and analysis of peace and security issues and contribute to developing common approaches to solve them, while ensuring African ownership of the process.

The United Nations and the African Union continue to prioritize the development of a partnership that ensures better coordinated, coherent and effective initiatives to prevent, resolve and manage the increasingly complex peace and security challenges in Africa. Going forward, the focus will be on strengthening conflict prevention and sustaining peace initiatives, including joint analysis and assessments, as well as more effective peacekeeping interventions in line with the principles outlined in the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping initiative.

The United Nations Office to the African Union provides an improved mechanism for cooperation at the regional level, primarily with the African Union and, to a limited extent, subregional organizations across Africa. The Office seeks to build a common United Nations-African Union understanding of the causes and drivers of conflicts and potential conflicts, and to consolidate the partnership with the African Union in the planning and management of peace operations. The Office also supports the development of institutional capacities to strengthen the partnership and to facilitate collaboration on initiatives to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts. The Office works closely with United Nations peacekeeping operations and special political missions on the continent, and, in so doing, enhances United Nations peace and security relations with the African Union. Furthermore, it provides support to United Nations good offices initiatives in southern and eastern Africa, in coordination with the African Union and the respective subregional organizations. The Office works with the African Union to build a relationship of mutual respect and trust and to develop and implement joint approaches to preventing and addressing conflicts in Africa, and facilitates greater collaboration between the African Union and the various United Nations field missions across the continent.

(Signed) Hanna Tetteh
Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African
Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 3.172 The United Nations Office to the African Union was established on 1 July 2010 pursuant to General Assembly resolution [64/288](#). The Office integrated the former United Nations Liaison Office to the African Union, the African Union Peacekeeping Support Team, the United Nations planning team for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the support component of the Joint Support and Coordination Mechanism of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur.
- 3.173 In its resolutions [2033 \(2012\)](#), [2167 \(2014\)](#), [2320 \(2016\)](#) and [2378 \(2017\)](#), the Security Council called upon the Office to strengthen the cooperation between the United Nations Secretariat and the African Union Commission, including in the areas of mediation, capacity-building and, in particular, the operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture.
- 3.174 The mandate of the Office is to enhance the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in the area of peace and security; provide advice to the African Union on long-term capacity-building and short-term operational support matters; and streamline the United Nations presence in Addis Ababa to provide cost-effective and efficient assistance to the African Union in the area of peace and security.

Alignment with the Charter of the United Nations, the Sustainable Development Goals and other transformative agendas

- 3.175 The mandates of the Office guide it in producing the respective deliverables, which contribute to the attainment of the objective. The objective is aligned with the Organization's purpose to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purposes stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter are embodied by the Sustainable Development Goals. The objective, and therefore the deliverables, is aligned with one Sustainable Development Goal, as reflected in paragraph 3.188.
- 3.176 The objective of the Office is also aligned with the following transformative agendas: the Action for Peacekeeping initiative, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2436 \(2018\)](#); the sustaining peace agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#) and General Assembly resolution [70/262](#); the women and peace and security agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#); and the youth and peace and security agenda, pursuant to Security Council resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#). Support to the African Union is also provided in alignment with Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as recognized in General Assembly resolution [71/254](#).

Recent developments

- 3.177 In 2018, efforts to further enhance the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union continued and achieved tangible results. Most notable was the signing of a joint declaration by the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on 6 December 2018, which adds impetus to the ongoing efforts to implement Security Council resolutions [2320 \(2016\)](#) and [2378 \(2017\)](#). In addition, the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission held the second African Union-United Nations annual conference on 9 July 2018 and adopted a joint communiqué in which they expressed their commitment to further deepen the strategic partnership between the two organizations, and undertook to enhance collaboration,

cooperation and coordination in the search for sustainable solutions to ongoing and future challenges, on the basis of the principles of complementarity, comparative advantage, burden-sharing and collective responsibility, to respond early, coherently and decisively to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts. Furthermore, the United Nations and the African Union held the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Joint Task Force on Peace and Security, on 30 January 2018 and 22 September 2018, respectively, at which Under-Secretaries-General and African Union Commissioners discussed peace and security challenges on the African continent and opportunities for further collaboration between the two organizations, including the conduct of joint field missions to enhance a common understanding and deliver common messages to parties in conflict situations. Joint field missions were subsequently conducted in Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Niger and South Sudan.

Strategy and external factors for 2020

- 3.178 The areas of focus for the Office are to strengthen strategic coherence throughout the conflict cycle with the African Union and regional economic communities and regional mechanisms; strengthen strategic coordination and partnership throughout the conflict cycle; increase operational synergies; and provide support in addressing ongoing conflicts in Africa. In the process, the Office works closely with various other partners and United Nations entities while participating in relevant coordination mechanisms to enhance cohesion in efforts to support and collaborate with the African Union. The Office will continue to strengthen the United Nations partnership with the African Union by implementing the Joint United Nations-African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, as agreed between the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission. The action plans for the Office are focused on support for the following strategic priorities, as set out in the Joint Framework: preventing and mediating conflict and sustaining peace; responding to conflict, including through peace support operations; addressing the root causes of conflict; and enhancing the partnership between the United Nations, the African Union and regional economic communities and regional mechanisms. These priorities are all implemented within the context of, and with a special focus on, international human rights law.
- 3.179 The Office serves as the focal point for and liaison office between United Nations Headquarters, the African Union and regional economic community and regional mechanisms in the area of peace and security, with the aim of securing coordinated and cohesive approaches to the implementation of the Joint Framework. To ensure that efforts of the United Nations are effective and not duplicative, the Office coordinates its work with the full range of United Nations actors. Primary actors include the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Operational Support. The Office also works in close collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes that support the African Union. The Office also maintains effective relationships with the members of the Security Council. In addition, the Office works in close collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- 3.180 The Office has established relationships with a variety of partners, including external partners and stakeholders, while providing technical and expert advice and support in the area of peace and security on the African continent. Collaboration with all African entities takes into consideration the context of Agenda 2063 of the African Union and other African guidance documents. The Office established and maintains effective relationships, interaction and coordination with the African Union Commission and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, as well as all other structures within the African Peace and Security Architecture. As part of efforts to support African unity, integration and goals, the Office also collaborates with the regional economic communities and regional mechanisms on a continued basis while providing technical and expert advice.
- 3.181 In April 2018, the Office held an annual retreat, at which discussions were centred on the accomplishments and challenges or shortfalls of the United Nations-African Union partnership, as well as on the future opportunities in the management of peace and security situations in Africa as

part of the African Peace and Security Architecture. The findings of the retreat have been taken into account in the programme plan for 2020.

- 3.182 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2020 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) There is continued political will and commitment among the United Nations and the African Union in promoting cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in the area of peace and security;
 - (b) Extrabudgetary funding continues to be available;
 - (c) The African Union has the necessary human and financial capacity to effectively deliver on mandates to address peace and security challenges in Africa;
 - (d) United Nations Headquarters and partners provide the necessary support.
- 3.183 The Office integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. For example, the Office will support the harmonization and streamlining of efforts by the United Nations and the African Union to institutionalize gender-responsive policymaking and programming; and increase the equal participation, representation and full involvement of women in preventive diplomacy, mediation and sustaining peace to ensure common vision and action to advance the women and peace and security agenda. The Office will support and advise the African Union on its recently developed African Union-wide gender strategy under its Women, Gender and Development Directorate.
- 3.184 With regard to cooperation with other entities, effective relationships exist between the Office and external partners, including the European Union and donor countries. The Office participates in the African Union Partners Group to ensure broad information-sharing, joint planning and coordinated support to the African Union in addressing peace and security issues on the continent. The Office also maintains liaison with external partners and relevant stakeholders on providing technical and expert advice on the planning and deployment of AMISOM, as well as other African Union peace support operations, including meetings with potential and existing police- and troop-contributing countries, donors and interlocutors. Close collaboration also exists between the Office and research and academic institutions, including the Institute for Security Studies, the Institute for Peace and Security Studies at Addis Ababa University and the International Crisis Group, to enhance understanding of current situations and to support the African Union.
- 3.185 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, the Office engages and coordinates with various clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa. The Office co-chairs meetings of the governance, peace and security cluster with its African Union counterpart. Other clusters and subclusters include the advocacy and communications cluster (chaired by the Office of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Africa); the democracy and elections subcluster (co-chaired by the Office with the African Union counterpart); and the human resources development, employment and HIV/AIDS cluster (chaired by the United Nations Children's Fund).

Evaluation activities

- 3.186 The Office is developing a self-evaluation plan for implementation in 2020.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018



1. Objective

- 3.187 The objective, to which the Office contributes, is to strengthen the United Nations partnership with the African Union for peace and security in Africa.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.188 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to reduce all forms of violence and related death rates and to ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Joint African Union-United Nations declaration for peace support operations

The mandate of the United Nations Office to the African Union is built on two pillars, which include political and technical support to the African Union to operationalize political decisions. At the political level, the Office, apart from the day-to-day interactions with African Union in various forums, including the Peace and Security Council, facilitated joint high-level visits in countries facing peace and security challenges on the continent, such as the Central African Republic, the Comoros and South Sudan. These joint efforts contributed to the peace process in the Central African Republic, which was concluded in February 2019, and the successful elections in the Comoros in December 2018. As part of the technical and operational processes, the Office participated in the fourth joint review of AMISOM to take stock of the transition and the operational readiness assessment of the Mission.



The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, and the Secretary-General sign a joint declaration between the African Union and the United Nations. The declaration outlines the guiding principles underpinning the cooperation and collaboration between the African Union and the United Nations in responding to conflict and crisis situations in Africa, including support to African Union peace support operations and key priorities going forward. Source: United Nations Photo/Eskinder Debebe

Result and evidence

The deliverables contributed to the result, which is an enhanced common understanding of peace and security challenges between the United Nations Secretariat and the African Union Commission and a strengthened foundation for further collaboration. This includes the review and/or development of the doctrine, policies, roles and practices of the two organizations in responding to conflict, including the need for alignment of standards and processes; the review and/or development of procedures of human rights and international humanitarian law with regard to compliance and human rights due diligence policy; and financial management to improve transparency and accountability. In addition, the understanding is expected to lead to greater efforts to collaborate on the

requirements as set out in Security Council resolution [2378 \(2017\)](#) in relation to collaboration on joint planning and decision-making, compliance frameworks, financial management and related reporting.

Evidence of the result includes the signing of the joint declaration by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General on 6 December 2018. The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.189 A planned result for 2018, which is enhanced conflict mitigation in southern and eastern Africa, in coordination with the African Union and subregional organizations, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by the number of missions in response to requests for good offices support from the initiatives in all regions in southern and eastern Africa carried out in a timely manner (2 actual compared with a biennial target of 2). In 2018, missions in response to requests for good offices support were carried out in Madagascar and the Comoros.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Strengthening the African Peace and Security Architecture

In 2018, during the retreat held in April, it was identified that the three sections of political, operations and mission support, whose activities are reported by the United Nations Office to the African Union reported to the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, respectively, tended to interact with limited coordination between the sections.

Challenge and response

The challenge was to improve coordination methods within the sections in order to build better relationships and to advance ongoing work on the African Peace and Security Architecture and the Maputo five-year workplan for the African Standby Force pillar.

In response, for 2020, the Office will provide support to different initiatives in a more coordinated fashion, also in alignment with the reform of the peace and security pillar. This will be done through integrated planning and the implementation of an integrated monitoring and evaluation mechanism within the Office to ensure the alignment of efforts at the political and operational level. The Office will interact with and support the African Union in the strengthening of the African Peace and Security Architecture and the implementation of the road map focusing on the Peace Fund, peace support operations and the African Standby Force, conflict prevention and sustainable peace, with an emphasis on addressing the root causes of conflict, which will contribute towards the African Union aspiration to “silence the guns” by 2020.

The Peace Fund is expected to be one of the mechanisms that would allow the African Union to finance its efforts in mediation and preventive diplomacy, institutional capacity and peace support operations. In that context, the Office will be working with the African Union Commission in developing policies and guidelines, rules and regulations for the effective governance of the Peace Fund, in alignment with the joint declaration that was signed in December 2018.

In relation to strengthening African Union capacity on peace support operations and the African Standby Force, in 2020 the Office will engage in and support the development of an African Union peace support operations doctrine as well as the establishment of the African Standby Force continental logistics base in Douala, Cameroon, and of rosters of civilian and police personnel as part of the African Standby Capacity roster, as well as the development of policies for compliance with human rights and conduct and discipline standards in accordance with the joint declaration.

The Office will also support capacity-building for the newly established Mediation Support Unit in the African Union Commission through training, mentoring and staff exchanges, including visits to regional economic communities, in order to enable the Unit to effectively fulfil its responsibility as secretariat and adviser to the Panel of the Wise, the Network of African Women in Conflict Prevention and Mediation (FemWise-Africa) and other mediators appointed by the African Union, and to fully integrate the Unit within existing peace and security mechanisms for conflict prevention efforts.

Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is enhanced capacity of the African Union and greater partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution for sustainable peace on the continent.

Evidence of the result, if achieved will include the operationalization of the Peace Fund, as shown in the table.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures

2018	2019	2020
Joint declaration signed, paving the way to the Peace Fund	Operationalization of modalities for the Peace Fund	Rules and regulations for the governance of the Peace Fund adopted

- 3.190 The Office will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

- 3.191 Table 3.30 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.30

United Nations Office to the African Union: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	2018 <i>planned</i>	2018 <i>actual</i>	2019 <i>planned</i>	2020 <i>planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	1	5	1	8
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	9	33	9	29
Technical materials (number of materials)	6	21	6	11
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				
Fact-finding, monitoring and investigation missions				
Databases and substantive digital materials				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variations between the actual and planned figures in 2018

- 3.192 The variance in substantive services for meetings was driven mainly by the holding of periodic coordination meetings of the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, owing to requests for the holding of preparatory technical meetings ahead of the joint consultative meetings.
- 3.193 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events was driven mainly by the holding of capacity-building events for African Union peace support operations on concepts relating to military, police and civilian strategic support, pursuant to the request of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Safety and Security.
- 3.194 The variance in technical materials was driven mainly by the issuance of the joint United Nations-African Union technical review/assessment reports on African Union peace support operations, pursuant to the requests contained in Security Council resolutions [2372 \(2017\)](#) and [2431 \(2018\)](#).

Variations between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

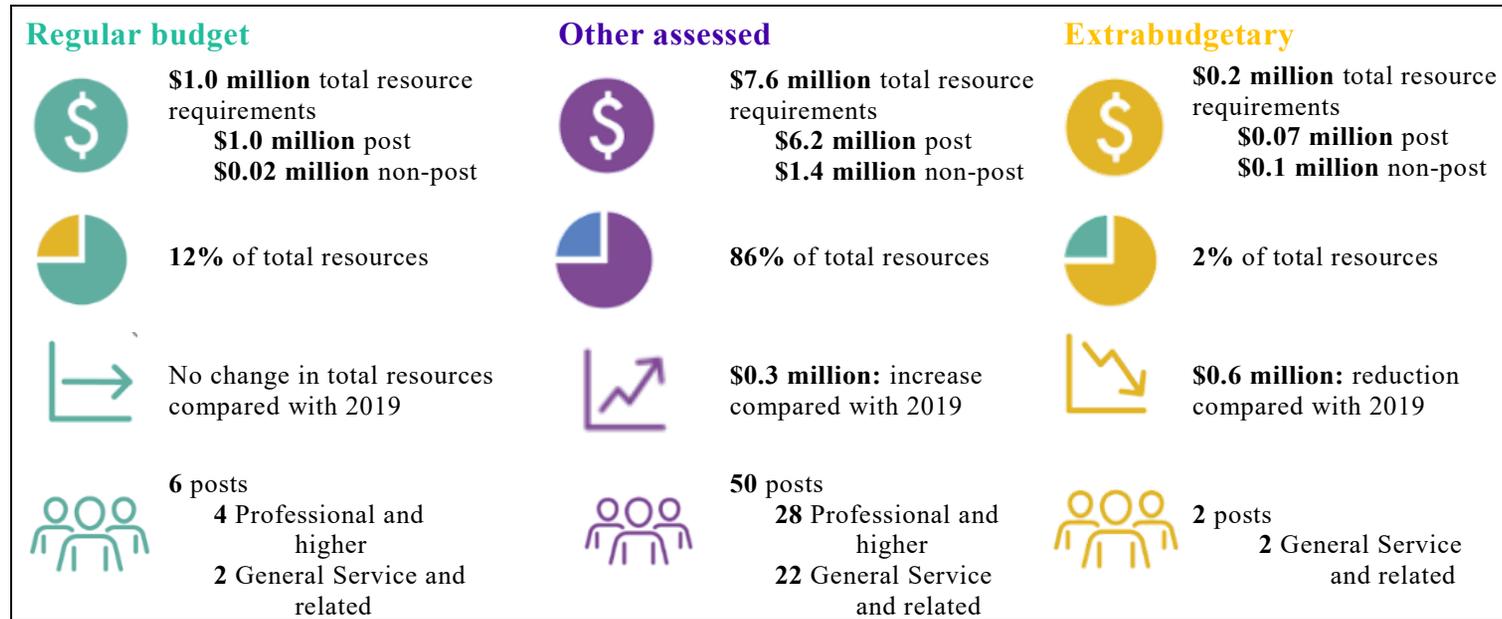
- 3.195 The variance in substantive services for meetings is driven mainly by the anticipated holding of periodic coordination meetings of the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, owing to the adjustment to the planned number for 2020 on the basis of recent actual experience.
- 3.196 The variance in seminars, workshops and training events is driven mainly by the holding of capacity-building events for African Union peace support operations on concepts relating to military, police and civilian strategic support, pursuant to the request of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Safety and Security.
- 3.197 The variance in technical materials is driven by the anticipated issuance of joint United Nations-African Union technical review/assessment reports on African Union peace support operations, owing to the adjustment to the planned number for 2020 on the basis of recent actual experience.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020

Overview

3.198 The total resource requirements for 2020, comprising the regular budget and projected other assessed and extrabudgetary resources, are reflected in figure 3.XXVI and table 3.31.

Figure 3.XXVI
2020 in numbers



Note: Estimates before recosting.

Table 3.31

Overview of financial and post resources by component and funding source

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Regular budget			Other assessed			Extrabudgetary			Total		
	2019 appropriation	2020 estimate (before recosting)	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance
Financial resources												
Programme of work	1 040.0	1 040.0	–	7 325.5	7 638.1	312.6	757.5	176.2	(581.3)	9 123.0	8 854.3	(268.7)
Total	1 040.0	1 040.0	–	7 325.5	7 638.1	312.6	757.5	176.2	(581.3)	9 123.0	8 854.3	(268.7)
Post resources												
Programme of work	6	6	–	50	50	–	4	2	(2)	60	58	(2)
Total	6	6	–	50	50	–	4	2	(2)	60	58	(2)

Overview of resources for the regular budget

3.199 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in table 3.32. Further details are provided below. The proposed resource level provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

3.200 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 72/219, the United Nations Office to the African Union is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. In 2018, a highlight was the installation of energy-efficient printers and software to monitor printing levels. In 2020, the Office will continue to purchase information and communications technology equipment, funded through other assessed resources, taking into consideration not only the energy savings but the broader environmental impact of the equipment.

Table 3.32

Programme of work: evolution of financial and post resources

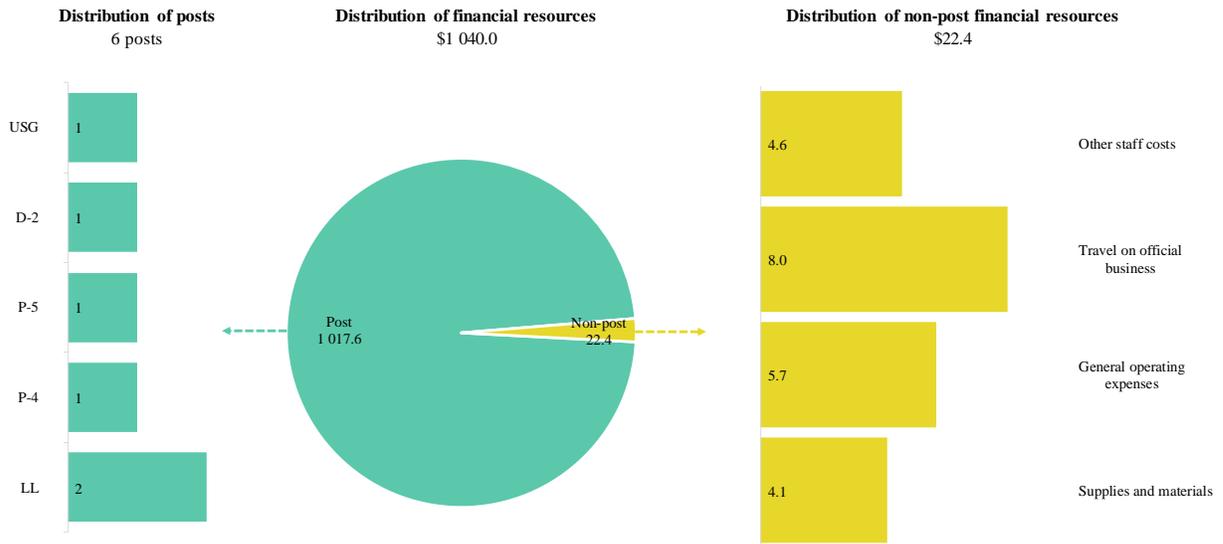
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Change					2020 estimate (before recosting)	Recosting	2020 estimate (after recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage			
Financial resources by main category of expenditure										
Post	1 129.9	1 017.6	–	–	–	–	–	1 017.6	63.5	1 081.1
Non-post	16.0	22.4	–	–	–	–	–	22.4	1.1	23.5
Total	1 145.9	1 040.0	–	–	–	–	–	1 040.0	64.6	1 104.6
Post resources by category										
Professional and higher		4	–	–	–	–	–	4		
General Service and related		2	–	–	–	–	–	2		
Total		6	–	–	–	–	–	6		

3.201 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020 amount to \$1,040,000 and reflect no changes compared with the appropriation for 2019. Additional details are reflected in figure 3.XXVII.

Figure 3.XXVII
Distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Abbreviations: LL, Local level; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

3.202 Other assessed resources are estimated at \$7,638,100, including fifty posts, and extrabudgetary resources are estimated at \$176,200, including two posts, as reflected in table 3.31. The resources would support the Office in carrying out its mandate. The increase of \$312,600 under other assessed resources mainly reflects increased provisions for posts. The net decrease of \$581,300 under extrabudgetary resources reflects the anticipated level of funding for 2020.

VI. Office of Counter-Terrorism



Foreword

Since assuming the position of Under-Secretary-General more than a year ago, I have seen at first hand the devastating impact that terrorist attacks and the virulent ideology of hatred have on ordinary lives and the social fabric of communities. I have visited many countries affected by terrorism, from Afghanistan to France to Mali, where I have met with victims of terrorist attacks, civil society organizations and, of course, with officials across government with responsibility for countering terrorism. In Afghanistan, I was touched by the strength and resilience of the survivors of terrorist attacks and of victims' families, and of their sense of isolation once attention shifts to the next attack. At all levels of society, I heard the same message and the same commitment. Terrorism, and violent extremism as conducive to terrorism, is one of the most serious threats to peace and security and is one of the most important challenges that respects neither borders, nor the rule of law, nor respect for human life.

In every country, ordinary citizens up to government officials and Heads of State all spoke of the important role that the United Nations plays to prevent and combat terrorism and the need for the United Nations to provide increased support at the national, regional and community levels. In Nigeria, I saw improved security screening at airports and heard how training delivered by the Office of Counter-Terrorism resulted in baggage screeners detecting weapons smuggled in luggage which could have been used in potential attacks. In part, as a result of our work on aviation security and the lessons learned, Member States have expressed an interest in receiving technical assistance in the area of advance passenger information and passenger name record data. This project is a new example of the coordinated work of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Office of Information and Communications Technology and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to provide services and a software solution to Member States to strengthen their efforts to detect, prevent and prosecute foreign terrorist fighters.

Despite the challenges that we face to prevent and counter terrorism, I am encouraged by the dedication of United Nations entities in the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact to mobilize, deploy and share United Nations expertise and resources to support the capacities of Member States to counter terrorism. Terrorism is a transnational threat that requires concerted multilateral responses that are as agile and multifaceted as the threat itself. Our interventions need to achieve sustainable and meaningful impact.

As I look ahead to 2020, I see tremendous potential for the United Nations to make a real difference in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. I hope that you will join me in making every effort to enable the Office to deliver its mandate for a future without terrorism.

(Signed) Vladimir **Voronkov**
Under-Secretary-General, Office of Counter-Terrorism

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 3.203 The Office of Counter-Terrorism of the United Nations is responsible for providing leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General for action across the United Nations system, enhancing coordination and coherence across the United Nations to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, strengthening the delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance to Member States, improving the visibility of and advocacy and resource mobilization for United Nations counter-terrorism efforts and ensuring that due emphasis is placed on counter-terrorism across the United Nations system and that the work on preventing violent extremism is firmly rooted in the Strategy. The mandate of the Office derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions and decisions, including Assembly resolution [71/291](#) and Council resolution [2395 \(2017\)](#).
- 3.204 To fulfil these leadership and coordination functions, the Secretary-General established the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, comprising 36 United Nations entities plus the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organization. Serviced by the Office, the Global Compact promotes action-oriented collaboration among the United Nations entities, is a platform for joint programming and coherent monitoring and evaluation and will facilitate joint resource mobilization and outreach to donors. This enhanced cooperation and coherence supports the Secretary-General's "all of United Nations" approach.

Alignment with the Charter of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.205 The mandates of the Office guide it in producing the respective deliverables, which contribute to the attainment of the objective. The objective is aligned with the Organization's purpose to maintain international peace and security, and to that end: to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the purposes stipulated in Article 1 of the Charter are embodied by the Sustainable Development Goals. The objective, and therefore the deliverables, is aligned with one Sustainable Development Goal, as reflected in paragraph 3.223.

Recent developments

- 3.206 In its resolutions [2395 \(2017\)](#) and [2396 \(2017\)](#), the Security Council called for closer collaboration and stronger cooperation between the Office and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, in particular, that the Office's capacity-building projects should address the country assessment recommendations and analysis of the Executive Directorate. In June 2018, the General Assembly adopted its resolution [72/284](#) on the sixth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in which it recognized the role of the Office, encouraged the Office to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the United Nations system and called upon the Office to perform its other functions.
- 3.207 In June 2018, the Secretary-General convened the first United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies in New York, bringing together over 1,000 participants from 150 Member States and 51 civil society organizations, 25 international and regional organizations and over 30 United Nations entities. At the conclusion of the Conference, the Secretary-General proposed three new ideas: establishing a United Nations counter-terrorism coordination portal,

organizing regional events on key thematic issues in the next two years and establishing a new unit in the Office to ensure that the views of civil society are fully reflected in counter-terrorism policies and programmes.

- 3.208 In 2018, the Secretary-General also established the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, as noted in his report to the General Assembly on the activities of the United Nations system in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy ([A/72/840](#)). The Global Compact is to promote action-oriented collaboration among 38 United Nations and other entities to support implementation of the Strategy and relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions in support of Member States' counter-terrorism efforts. Its implementation mechanism is supported by the Office and includes a Coordination Committee and thematic inter-agency working groups led by thematic lead entities in the United Nations system.
- 3.209 In addition to being a platform for joint programming, the Global Compact will facilitate joint resource mobilization and outreach to donors. Through the Global Compact platform, member entities are also developing a monitoring and evaluation mechanism that will strengthen the delivery of United Nations counter-terrorism projects in the field. The Global Compact also aims to enhance cooperation with and among intergovernmental organizations, as appropriate, in particular those with regional or subregional coverage, in order to adapt technical assistance activities to the specific regional or national requirements, avoiding duplication and maximizing impact.

Strategy and external factors for 2020

- 3.210 Given the fluid and evolving nature of the terrorist threat, the approach in 2020 will be agile and flexible to quickly respond to emerging trends and patterns. In the past few years, the foreign terrorist fighters phenomenon has shifted from those terrorists who travelled to conflict zones to those fighters, with their families and children, returning to their countries of origin or relocating to third countries. While the approach in 2020 will be focused on these foreign terrorist fighters and their children, as they grow older, it is not known how well they may be reintegrated into society and what the consequences will be in the future, nor whether new conflict zones will emerge which draw foreign terrorist fighters back.
- 3.211 In 2018, the United Nations acquired ownership of a software solution for advance passenger information and passenger name record data that can monitor and detect suspected foreign terrorists and organized criminals with links to terrorist organizations. This software is now the property of the United Nations and will be further developed by the Organization and offered to Member States that can respond to the challenges mentioned above, in compliance with Security Council resolution [2396 \(2017\)](#). This is the basis for the development of a collaborative programme coordinated by the Office of Counter-Terrorism in partnership with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, ICAO, the Office of Information and Communications Technology and UNODC to assist Member States to build their own capacity to detect and counter terrorists and their travel movements, initially supporting around 10 Member States.
- 3.212 A coordinated and coherent system-wide approach on the ground and at Headquarters is necessary to effectively respond to requests from Member States for capacity-building assistance. In the delivery of its projects and programmes, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will continue to expand its use of "all of United Nations" programming, developing and implementing projects in an integrated manner that leverages the competencies and resources of Global Compact entities, consistent with their mandates. The Office will also continue to expand partnerships within the member entities of the Global Compact to leverage resources and enhance advocacy and engagement in counter-terrorism. The Office will also strengthen its engagement with civil society to ensure two-way engagement with these important voices at the national and global level, starting with the development of a strategy that will seek to leverage best practices of other Global Compact entities and Member States.

- 3.213 Human rights is at the core of the Office's work, and the Office continues to be one of the main providers of capacity-building assistance within the United Nations system to support Member States to comply with international human rights law while undertaking counter-terrorism measures. As part of its commitments to the United Nations human rights due diligence policy, the Office will establish dedicated resources to support adherence and to ensure that human rights are mainstreamed across all of its capacity-building work. In addition, the Office will strengthen the gender dimension of its programming by ensuring gender-responsive planning and interventions.
- 3.214 During the fourth quarter of 2018, the Office of Counter-Terrorism commenced a change management process to assess its present state of capacity, resources and capabilities by enhancing its structure in line with the expectations of Member States, as outlined in resolution [72/284](#), and with the mandate of the Office, as established in resolution [71/291](#). The change management process will be completed in 2019. The new structure is reflected in the organizational chart contained in annex I to the proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020, and would include the Office of the Under-Secretary-General, the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, the Strategic Planning and Programme Support Section, the Policy, Knowledge Management and Coordination Division and the Special Projects and Innovation Division.
- 3.215 In 2018, the Office of Counter-Terrorism introduced a more systematic approach to programme planning and management, as well as monitoring and evaluation across all of its units. The Office established a programme review board to provide regular oversight and quality assurance of project concepts, the development of project documents and the release of project budgets. Semi-annual project reviews with all project managers were held, after which the review recommendations would be implemented for improved performance and delivery.
- 3.216 The Office also completed the recruitment of a dedicated Monitoring and Evaluation Officer in the fourth quarter of 2018, with terms of reference for the establishment of an in-house monitoring and evaluation function, strengthened monitoring and evaluation activities in project management and improved design of baseline and measurement indicators. This work will be incorporated into the programme and project management of the Office in 2019 and 2020 and will contribute towards improving the results frameworks, developing options to assess impact and developing management and evaluation policies in compliance with United Nations standards and policies.
- 3.217 Towards the end of 2018, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) concluded its audit of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre and issued its report, which included 12 recommendations related to organization, programme management, resource mobilization and other topics. In 2020, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will build on the improvements in monitoring and evaluation undertaken as part of the Office's response to the recommendations of the OIOS audit report. The enhancements to the Office's organizational structure, the improvements to the working modalities of the Office and the anticipated increase in implementation will contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by delivering capacity-building assistance with partners both within and outside of the United Nations in support of common efforts to ensure a future without terrorism.
- 3.218 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2020 is based on the following planning assumptions:
- (a) Member States will continue to request support from the United Nations in counter-terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism;
 - (b) Adequate extrabudgetary resources for capacity-building support for Member States, will be available;
 - (c) Member States, supported by the Office of Counter-Terrorism, grant the necessary official approvals and access to enable implementation and delivery of this support.
- 3.219 The Office integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. For example, on 12 March 2018, the Office organized a side event with UN-Women during the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which focused on

advancing women's participation and leadership in countering terrorism and preventing violent extremism to take stock of the progress and challenges in advancing these efforts and to highlight the perspectives of civil society leaders for consideration during the sixth review of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

- 3.220 With regard to cooperation with other entities, the Office cooperates with regional organizations such as the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior, the African Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States Anti-Terrorism Center, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the League of Arab States, the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the European Union. The Office of Counter-Terrorism has developed partnership frameworks and memorandums of understanding with respective regional organizations to support joint approaches and collaboration, as well as regional counter-terrorism strategies in recognition of the regional drivers and enablers of terrorism. A memorandum of understanding has also been signed with INTERPOL.
- 3.221 With regard to inter-agency coordination and liaison, the Office has responsibility for coordination through the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, the working groups of the Global Compact and memorandums of understanding with other United Nations entities. This role will help to strengthen the achievement of results and impact, enhance the efficient use of resources and avoid duplication. Beyond the coordination level, the Office's approach prioritizes joint programming with other United Nations partners to deliver more coherent and expert capacity-building activities. For example, the Office of Counter-Terrorism and OHCHR are jointly delivering a global capacity-building project on human rights to strengthen compliance by law enforcement officials on international human rights for countering terrorism. Another example is a global prevention of violent extremism programme developed by the Office and UNDP that focuses on support for Member States to develop national plans of action on preventing violent extremism. Other examples include jointly implemented projects with UNODC, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, UN-Women, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Department of Global Communications of the Secretariat.

A. Proposed programme plan for 2020 and programme performance for 2018



1. Objective

- 3.222 The objective, to which the Office contributes, is to prevent and counter terrorism and to prevent violent extremism, as and when conducive to terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations in compliance with international law.

2. Alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals

- 3.223 The objective is aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Progress towards the attainment of the objective will help to strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, to prevent violence and combat terrorism.

3. Highlighted result in 2018

Protecting the rights of children of or returning with foreign terrorist fighters

In 2018, global concern was raised about the reported increase in the number of children of foreign terrorist fighters returning to their country of origin or going to a third country. These “child returnees” included children who had accompanied their parents or family members to areas of conflict, as well as children who were born to foreign terrorist fighters in conflict zones. Child returnees face multiple challenges, from trauma and forced marriage to lack of documentation and nationality. At the same time, many have been subjected to terrorist indoctrination and some have been trained in or have committed violent acts.

In order to support Member States in confronting this challenge, in 2018, the Office undertook an international consultation process to identify and analyse international best practice and standards in this underappreciated area, thereby addressing an important knowledge gap. This analysis will be presented in a handbook in which key considerations, principles and elements for the rehabilitation and reintegration of child returnees will be provided in five key areas, including: (a) key principles to protect the rights of children under this category, while addressing States’ security concerns; (b) human rights considerations for children placed on watch lists; (c) nationality and statelessness; (d) detention with parents or guardians; and (e) separation from parents or guardians. The handbook will provide expert guidance and good practices that could be used by Member States to develop comprehensive policies to support child returnees through a human-rights-based and gender-sensitive approach. The handbook will be disseminated to beneficiaries, including law enforcement and criminal justice officials and policymakers. Lessons learned include government responses to



The rights of children – the right to play. Source: Tobin Jones, United Nations Photo

trauma and possible radicalization, family and community support, rehabilitation and reintegration of child returnees.

The project aims to assist Member States to develop comprehensive policies to support child returnees through a human-rights-based and gender-sensitive approach to ensure the long-term rehabilitation and integration of such children into society.

Result and evidence

The deliverable contributed to the result, which is increased understanding of best practices with regard to child returnees, including on how to address challenges related to integration and detention, among practitioners dealing with child returnees.

Evidence of the result includes the indication by experts from Member States during informal discussions that the handbook will allow more countries to have specific knowledge of children's rights, of how to address challenges related to integrating children associated with foreign terrorists, and of how to deal with children in detention. For example, during missions to South-East Asia to meet officials from national counter-terrorism agencies, immigration and customs offices and national police forces, there were strong expressions of interest in receiving support from the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre on human-rights-based treatment of children accompanying foreign terrorist fighters.

The result demonstrates progress made in 2018 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

- 3.224 A planned result for 2018, which is strengthened collaboration among Member States, entities of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, and civil society partners to implement the United Nations Global Counter Terrorism Strategy, as referred to in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, was achieved, as evidenced by stronger engagement with Member States, United Nations entities and civil society in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, with the holding of 62 capacity-building workshops to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy, against the biennial target of 56, many of which were delivered with two or more Global Compact entities. Capacity-building workshops related to human rights, countering the financing of terrorism, technical vocational training, social media, information-sharing, strategic communications and support to victims were delivered in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, the Caribbean Community region and Central Asia.

4. Highlighted planned result for 2020

Keeping terrorists from the skies

In 2017 and 2018, the States Members of the United Nations, through Security Council resolution [2396 \(2017\)](#) on foreign terrorist fighters and General Assembly resolution [72/284](#) on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, and at the High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies convened by the Secretary-General, expressed their concern at the threat of the travel of foreign terrorist fighters across borders, which could lead to future attacks and radicalization. While mobility is key for terrorists, the use of traditional travel makes them more detectable, provided that the right instruments are in place. Processing passenger data supports the detection, prevention, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and other serious crimes. In resolution [2396 \(2017\)](#), the Council called upon Member States to strengthen measures to prevent the transit of terrorists. Those measures included ensuring that identity documents were not forged, as well as employing evidence-based risk assessments, screening procedures and the collection and analysis of travel data to identify individuals who posed a terrorist threat, in accordance with domestic and international law, without resorting to profiling based on discrimination.

In September 2018, the Office of Counter-Terrorism acquired a software solution called the goTravel system. With the system, the Office acquired the means to support Member States in the provision of a globally applicable system to enable airlines to share advance passenger information and passenger name record data needed by law enforcement authorities. Such data are reservation details provided initially by travel agents or by passengers themselves while

booking an airline ticket. Passenger name record data may include a wide range of information, such as the names of the passenger, ticket information, contact details, means of payment and baggage allowance information. The timely availability of the data will mean that relevant officials will have more time for analysis and preparing interventions.

Challenge and response

The challenge was that the effectiveness of such measures is highly dependent on the quality and quantity of travel data provided by air carriers to law enforcement agencies, as well as the analytical capacity of law enforcement agencies to interpret the data provided. As of August 2018, only a small number of Member States were collecting and analysing advance passenger information, while an even smaller number were collecting and analysing passenger name records in order to detect and counter terrorist travel. In addition, the cost of ensuring compliance, the complexity in creating an effective and secure system to receive and process passenger data for law enforcement purposes and the different national legislative and regulatory frameworks for the use and protection of personal data, as well as the right to privacy, were identified as challenges. Some Member States also need guidance on which steps to take to ensure compliance and are looking for support in establishing passenger information units.

In response, starting in 2019 and for 2020, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will implement a five-year advance passenger information/passenger name record programme, in collaboration with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Office of Information and Communications Technology and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), to deliver the planned activities. The programme will support 20 Member States to enhance significantly their national security and their capacity to prevent, detect and investigate terrorist offences and serious crime. Seven Member States will be supported through the effective application of the goTravel software by the Office of Information and Communications Technology, and another 13 will be supported with assessments and road maps for implementation by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and with their legislation by UNODC. Specifically, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will engage with Member States to provide training, certification and support in the establishment of their own passenger information units to receive and analyse data from airlines, as well as support information-sharing and awareness-raising among Member States. Finally, ICAO will work on standardization for the industry and engage with Member States to support carrier connection efforts.

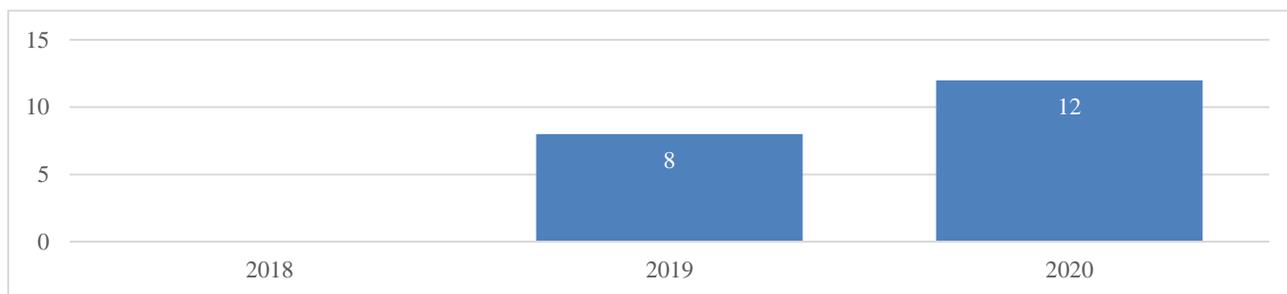
Result and evidence

The planned deliverables are expected to contribute to the result, which is increased capacity of Member States to identify terrorists and their travel movements and intervene when needed.

Evidence of the result, if achieved, will include 12 Member States establishing passenger information units to acquire the capacity to use the goTravel software solution for processing the passenger data, in accordance with adopted legislation and in full compliance with human rights standards, and providing their own authorities with alerts, as shown in the figure. With passenger information units building capacity to effectively collect, analyse and use passenger data, competent authorities from those Member States will have significantly increased capacity to identify, monitor, investigate and prosecute suspected terrorists.

The result, if achieved, will demonstrate progress made in 2020 towards the collective attainment of the objective.

Performance measures: number of Member States establishing passenger information units



3.225 The following General Assembly resolutions comprise the main mandates entrusted to the Office: resolution [60/288](#) on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and resolution [71/291](#) on strengthening the capability of the United Nations system to assist Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The following new mandate was entrusted to the Office in 2018: General Assembly resolution [72/284](#) on the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review. The Office will continue to be guided by all mandates entrusted to it, which provide the legislative framework for its deliverables.

5. Deliverables for the period 2018–2020

3.226 Table 3.33 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2018–2020 that contributed to and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 3.33

Office of Counter-Terrorism: deliverables for the period 2018–2020, by category and subcategory

	<i>2018 planned</i>	<i>2018 actual</i>	<i>2019 planned</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>
Quantified deliverables				
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1	5	–	3
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	5	21	4	13
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	68	98	100	249
Technical materials (number of materials)	–	5	–	5
Non-quantified deliverables				
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy				
Databases and substantive digital materials				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials				
External and media relations				
Digital platforms and multimedia content				

6. Most significant relative variances in deliverables

Variations between the actual and planned figures in 2018

3.227 The variance in parliamentary documentation was driven by the issuance of the reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat, the joint report of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Office of Counter-Terrorism pursuant to paragraph 18 of Security Council resolution [2395 \(2017\)](#), and the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, owing to Security Council resolutions [2368 \(2017\)](#) and [2395 \(2017\)](#) and General Assembly resolution [72/165](#), respectively.

3.228 The variance in substantive services for meetings was driven by briefings to the Security Council and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning

counter-terrorism, owing to increased requests by those intergovernmental bodies to be seized of urgent matters relating to international peace and security for Member States addressed in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Furthermore, the variance in substantive services for meetings was also driven by briefings to the Advisory Board of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, owing to requests for briefings on the programme of work and on the progress of implementation of its projects.

- 3.229 The variance in technical materials was driven by the issuance of reports, handbooks and papers on lessons learned, best practices and thematic topics in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, owing to an increased demand for the Office to provide greater “on the ground” support through practical expert-level technical materials for beneficiaries.

Variances between the planned figures for 2020 and 2019

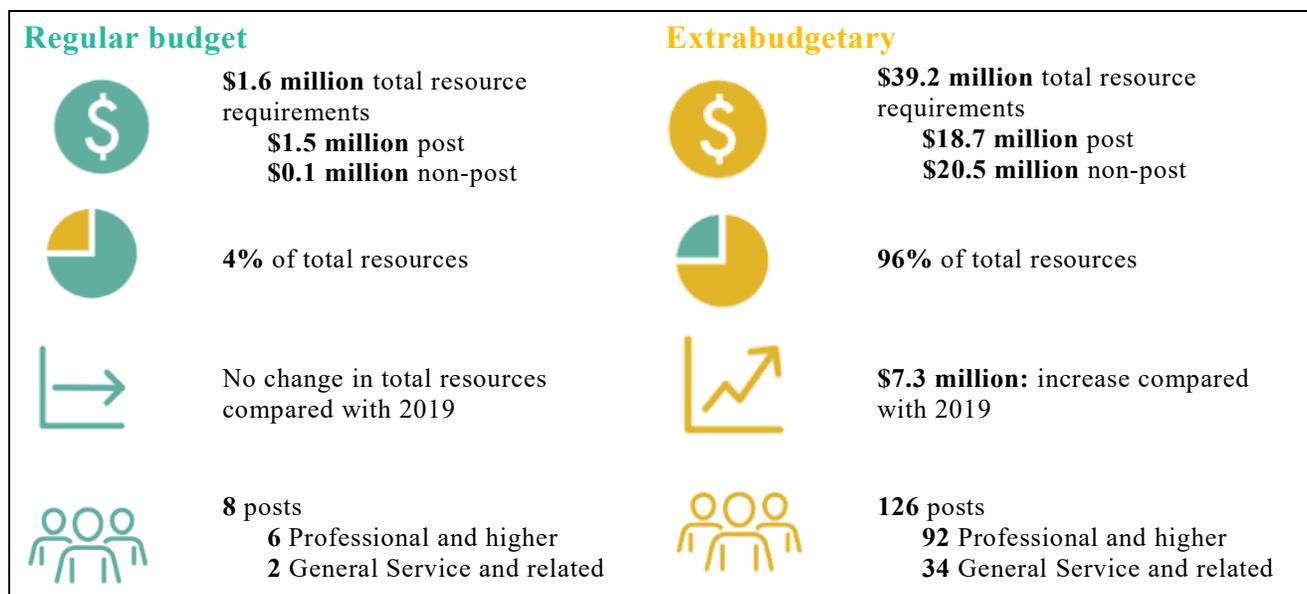
- 3.230 The variance in parliamentary documentation is driven by the planned issuance of the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy by the United Nations system, owing to the biennial nature of that report, and two reports of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the threat posed by ISIL (Da’esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat, pursuant to the request contained in Security Council resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#).
- 3.231 The variance in substantive services for meetings is driven mainly by briefings to the Security Council and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism, owing to the request of those intergovernmental bodies to be seized of urgent matters relating to international peace and security for Member States addressed in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Furthermore, the variance in substantive services for meetings is also driven by briefings to the Advisory Board of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, owing to requests for briefings on the programme of work and on the progress of implementation of its projects.
- 3.232 The variance in technical materials is driven by the planned issuance of reports, handbooks and papers on lessons learned, best practices and thematic topics in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, owing to an increased demand for the Office to provide greater “on the ground” support through practical expert-level technical materials for beneficiaries.

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2020

Overview

3.233 The total resource requirements for 2020, comprising the regular budget and projected extrabudgetary resources, are reflected in figure 3.XXVIII and table 3.34.

Figure 3.XXVIII
2020 in numbers



Note: Estimates before recosting.

Table 3.34
Overview of financial and post resources by component and funding source

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Regular budget			Extrabudgetary			Total		
	2019 appropriation	2020 estimate (before recosting)	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance	2019 estimate	2020 estimate	Variance
Financial resources by component									
Programme of work	1 587.1	1 587.1	-	31 910.0	39 171.0	7 261.0	33 497.1	40 758.1	7 261.0
Total	1 587.1	1 587.1	-	31 910.0	39 171.0	7 261.0	33 497.1	40 758.1	7 261.0
Post resources by component									
Programme of work	8	8	-	74	126	52	82	134	52
Total	8	8	-	74	126	52	82	134	52

Overview of resources for the regular budget

- 3.234 The proposed regular budget resources for 2020, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in table 3.35 and figure 3.XXIX. The proposed resource level provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.
- 3.235 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, in which organizations are encouraged to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycles, and in compliance with the cross-cutting mandate set out in paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 72/219, the Office of Counter-Terrorism is integrating environmental management practices into its operations. In 2018, a highlight was reduction in the number of printed copies of publications by making them available in formats readable online, then having them distributed or posted electronically. In 2020, the Office will continue this practice, publishing an online version of its updated multi-year appeal document and producing only a limited print run for distribution to permanent missions in New York. All the presentations mandated by the General Assembly are now being developed in electronic format and made available online to Member States.

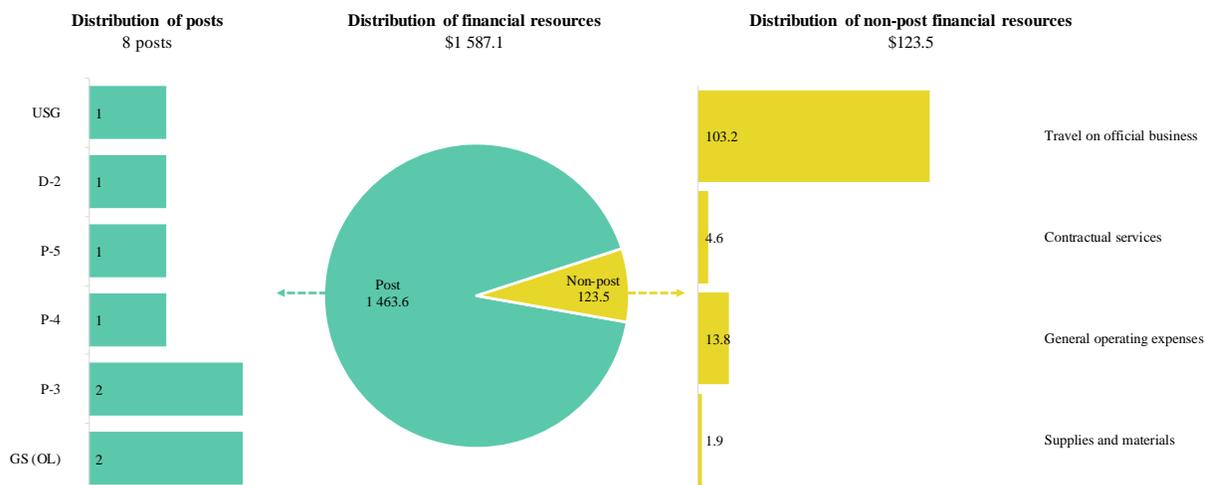
Table 3.35
Programme of work: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars)

	2018 expenditure	2019 appropriation	Change				2020 estimate (before recosting)	2020 estimate (after recosting)		
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total			Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure										
Post	1 501.5	1 463.6	–	–	–	–	–	1 463.6	53.0	1 516.6
Non-post	119.1	123.5	–	–	–	–	–	123.5	2.0	125.5
Total	1 620.6	1 587.1	–	–	–	–	–	1 587.1	55.0	1 642.1
Post resources by category										
Professional and higher		6	–	–	–	–	–	6		
General Service and related		2	–	–	–	–	–	2		
Total		8	–	–	–	–	–	8		

Figure 3.XXIX
Programme of work: distribution of proposed resources for 2020 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



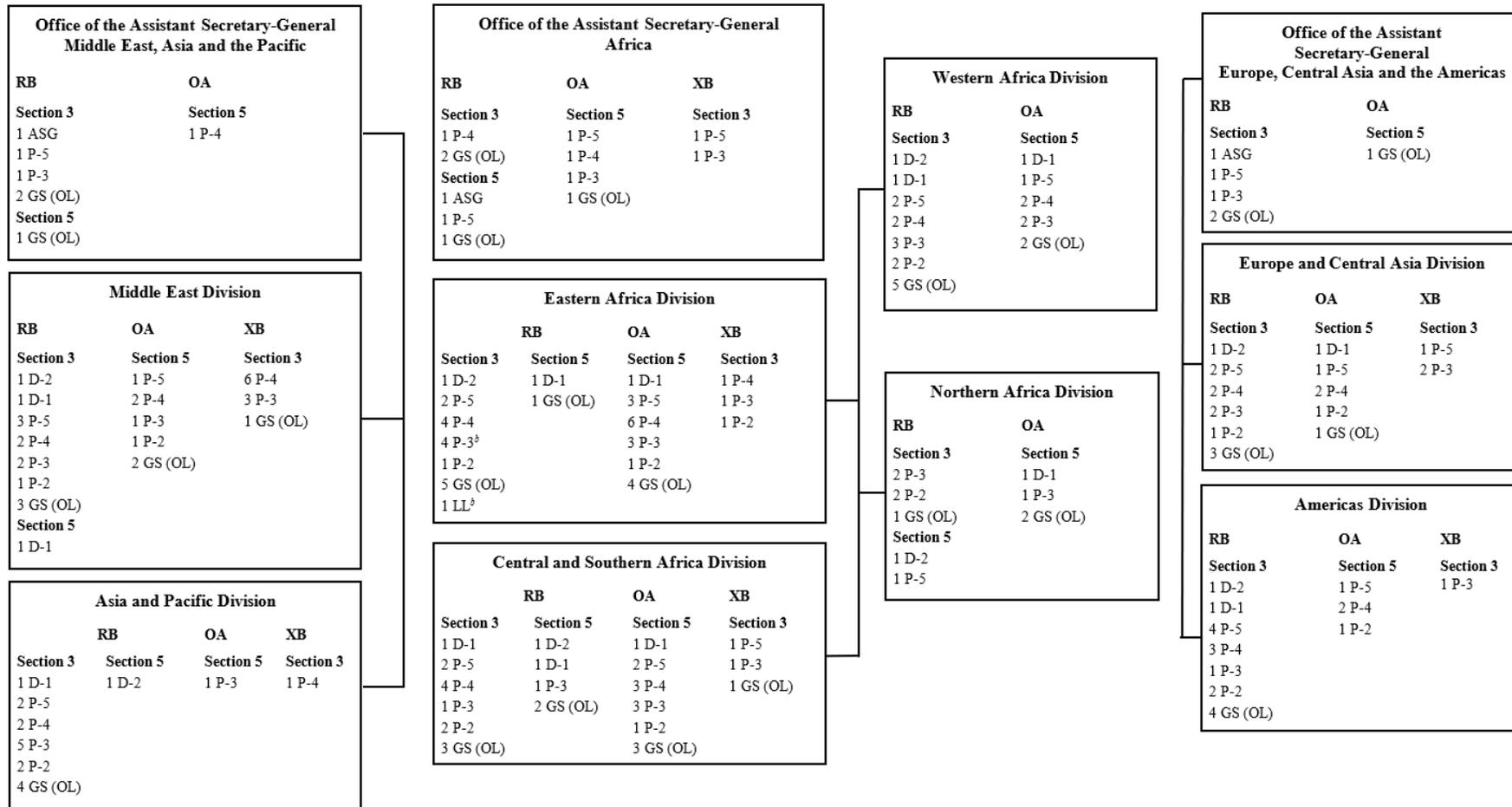
Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); USG, Under-Secretary-General.

- 3.236 Extrabudgetary resources for 2020 are estimated at \$39,171,000, as reflected in table 3.34. The resources would provide for 126 posts and non-post resources. The resources reflect a projected increase of \$7,261,000 compared with 2019, owing to contributions made by Member States in response to General Assembly resolutions [71/291](#) and [72/284](#) and Security Council resolutions [2395 \(2017\)](#), [2396 \(2017\)](#) and [2462 \(2019\)](#), and would support the activities carried out by the Office as detailed below.
- 3.237 Since the establishment of the Office of Counter-Terrorism in June 2017, the expenditures of the Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism have been steadily increasing, from \$8.4 million in 2016, to \$10.6 million in 2017, and again to \$17.6 million in 2018, which was the Office’s first full year of operations. The financial support of the donor community has increased from \$1 million in 2016, to \$5.5 million in 2017, to \$11.7 million in 2018. For the period from 2016 to 2018, expenditure exceeded fundraising, but the Office was able to rely on funds raised during previous years. The Office is developing innovative ways of delivering capacity-building assistance to Member States by expanding its area of expertise, transitioning from projects to programmes and delivering global and regional programmes to address the needs of Member States as identified by the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate in its technical assessments.
- 3.238 The capacity-building mandate of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, established in 2017, will continue to be implemented not only by the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, but also through the Office’s newly-established Special Projects and Innovation Division. As a result, the capacity-building work of the Office will expand and be greatly enhanced with implementation of global programmes such as the advanced passenger information/passenger name record programme, the aviation security programme, the conceptualization of technical assistance for security at sports events and collaboration with the International Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on joint programming.
- 3.239 There was a notable expansion in the capacity-building programmes and projects of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre in 2018, to support Member States in the implementation of all four pillars of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. Participants in the sixth review of the Strategy welcomed the work of the Office, carried out through the Centre, in building the capacity of Member States to counter and respond to terrorism, and encouraged States to collaborate with the Centre and to contribute to the implementation of its activities, including through the

development, funding and implementation of capacity-building projects. The breadth of the Centre's engagements with Member States was facilitated through the active partnerships developed with Member States and with entities of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact for the delivery of capacity-building support and expertise.

- 3.240 Building on those initiatives and deliberations, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will focus in 2020 on expanded implementation, across all four pillars of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, of capacity-building programmes and projects that yield tangible and sustainable impact for Member States. Increasing project delivery will require the continued growth of the Office. New global multi-year programmes launched in 2018 will pave the way for quicker implementation in 2020. The programmes on border security and management, terrorism involving chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials or other weapons of mass destruction, addressing cyber-terrorism threats, advanced passenger information/passenger name records and countering the financing of terrorism will therefore be in full gear. The year 2018 was a pivotal one for United Nations support to victims of terrorism delivered through the Counter-Terrorism Centre. That work will continue in 2019, taking into account Member State initiatives in that regard, with planning to be initiated for a major congress for victims of terrorism to be held during the high-level counter-terrorism week in June 2020.
- 3.241 To ensure sustainability and impact on the ground, the Office of Counter-Terrorism will move ahead with a new initiative to establish a training cell that will develop and deliver a series of trainings for both Member States (with a focus on Africa) and staff, including on the establishment of, and skills development for, national inter-agency counter-terrorism fusion cells.

B. Regional political-operational structure^a

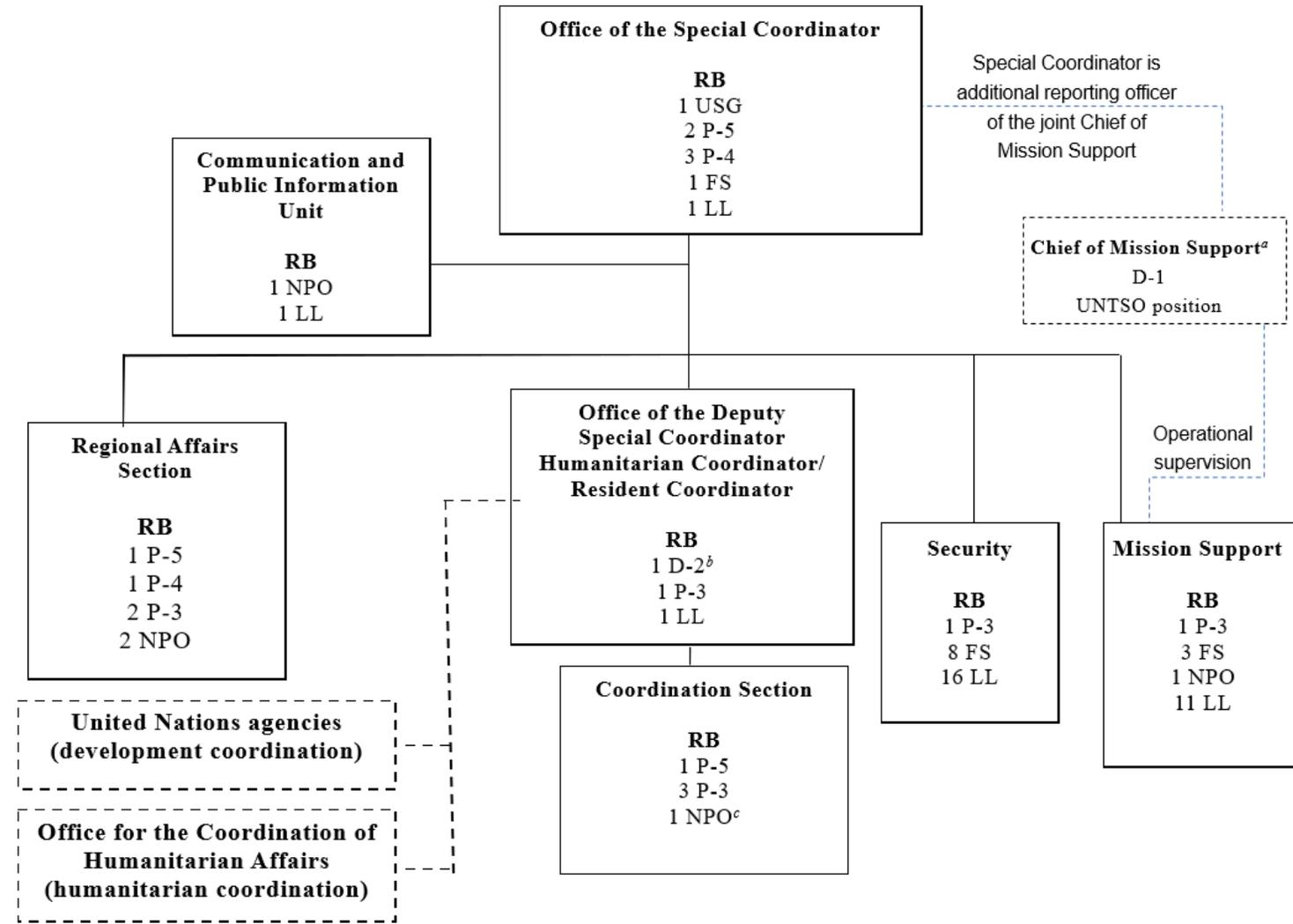


Abbreviations: ASG, Assistant Secretary-General; GS (OL), General Service (Other level); LL, Local level; OA, other assessed; RB, regular budget; XB, extrabudgetary.

^a Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/262 C, in which the Assembly stressed that the actions to restructure the United Nations peace and security pillar should be implemented with full respect for the relevant mandates, decisions and resolutions of the Assembly and the Security Council, without changing established mandates, functions or funding sources of the peace and security pillar, information on post resources under Section 5 are provided for information purposes.

^b 1 P-3 and 1 LL are based in Nairobi.

C. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process



Special Coordinator is additional reporting officer of the joint Chief of Mission Support

Operational supervision

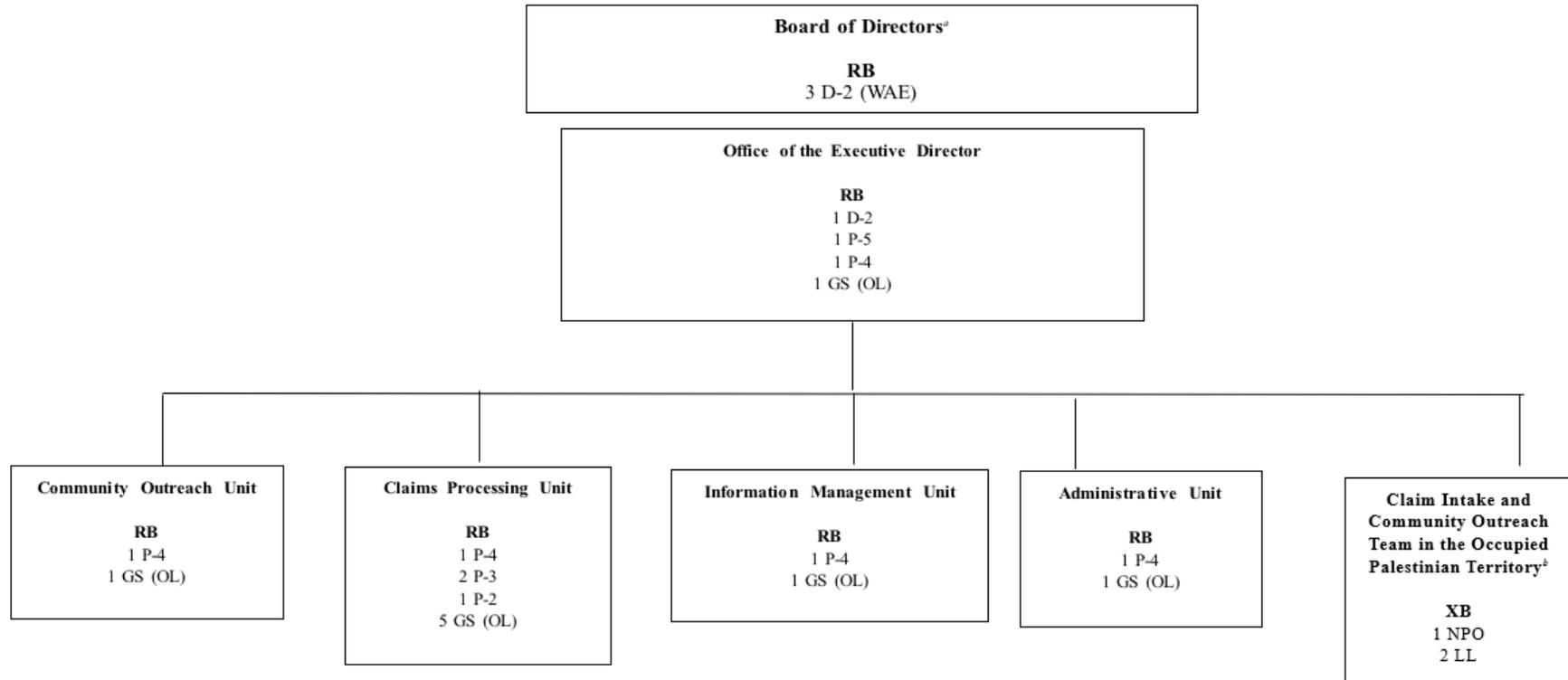
Abbreviations: FS, Field Service; LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; UNTSO, United Nations Truce Supervision Organization.

^a The joint UNTSO and Office of the Special Coordinator Chief of Mission Support position is budgeted under the UNTSO structure.

^b Post budgeted at the D-2 level and cost shared by the Development Coordination Office at the Assistant Secretary-General level.

^c Redeployment from Ramallah to Jerusalem within the Coordination Section.

D. United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

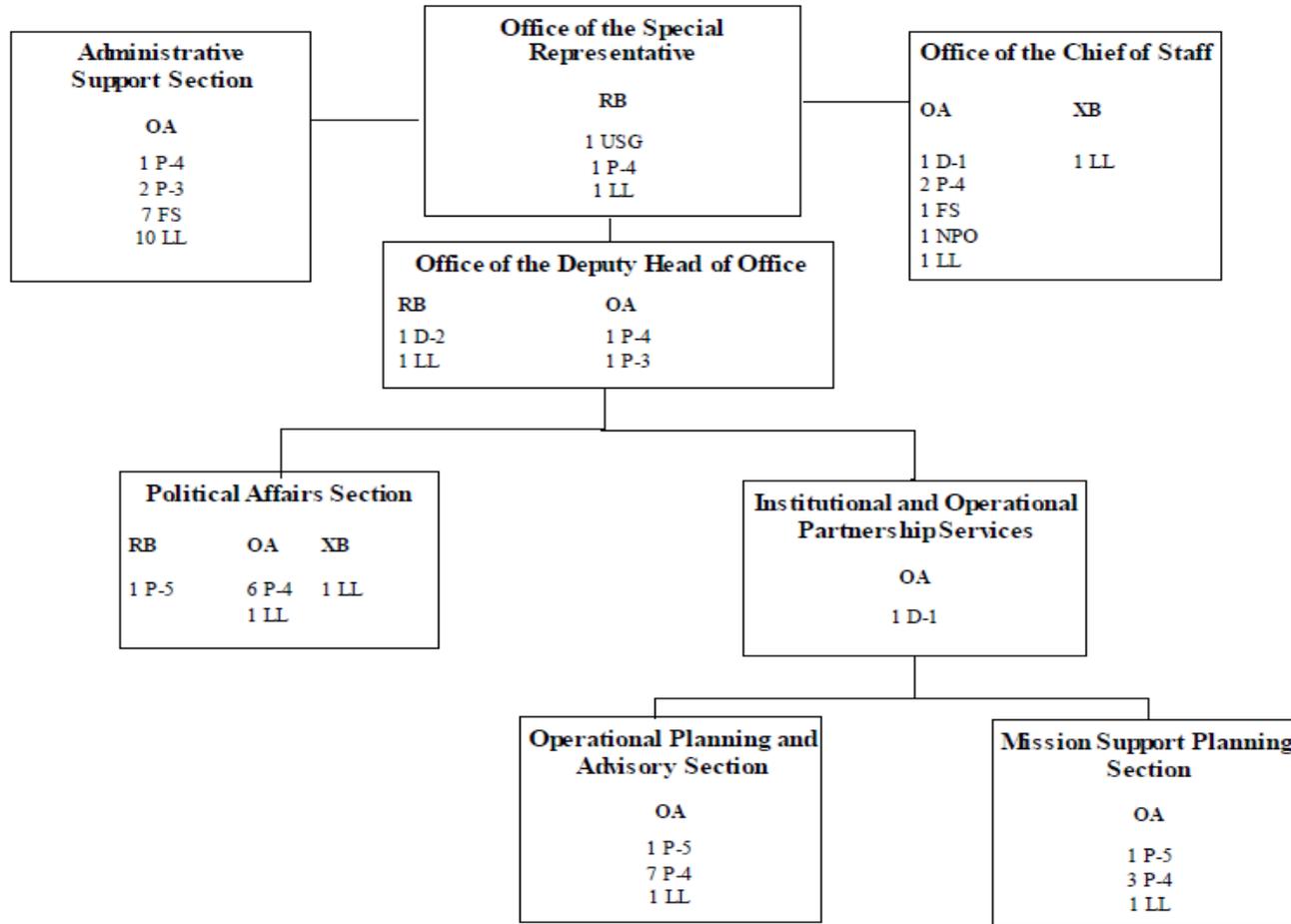


Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); LL, Local level); NPO, National Professional Officer; RB, regular budget; WAE, when actually employed; XB, extrabudgetary.

^a The Executive Director of the Office of the Register of Damage acts as ex officio member of the Board.

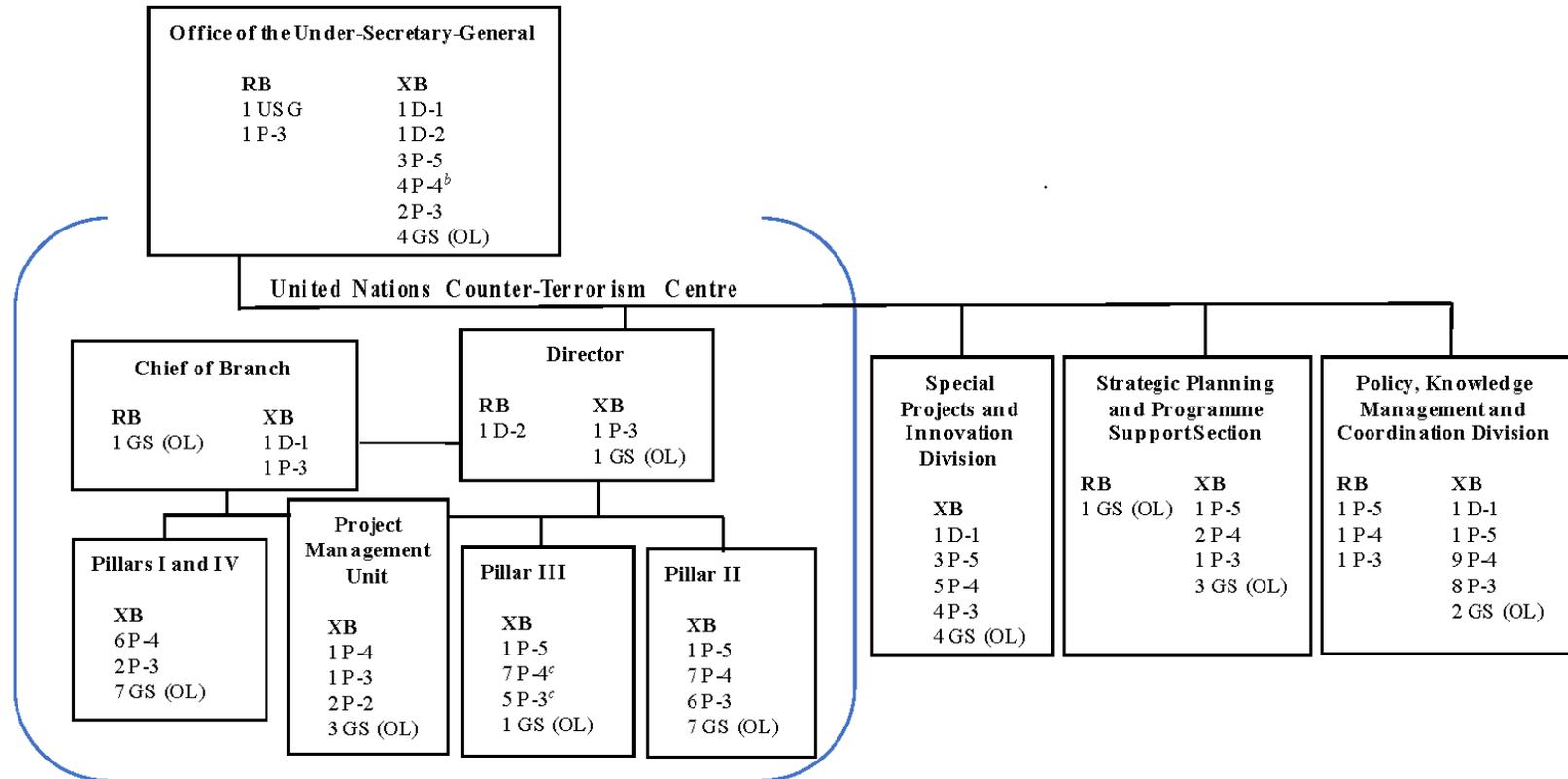
^b The Claims Intake and Community Outreach Team based in Ramallah is funded from the trust fund of the United Nations Register of Damage. All contracted staff of the Unit are administered by the United Nations Office for Project Services.

E. United Nations Office to the African Union



Abbreviations: FS, Field Service; LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; RB, regular budget; OA, other assessed; USG, Under-Secretary-General; XB, extrabudgetary.

F. Office of Counter-Terrorism^a



Abbreviations: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General; XB, extrabudgetary.

^a 3 P-3, 1 GS (PL) and 1 GS (OL) are located in the joint Executive Office of the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Department of Peace Operations to support the Office of Counter-Terrorism.

^b 1 P-4 is located in Brussels.

^c 1 P-4 is located in Bangkok, 1 P-3 is located in Ashgabat and 1 P-3 is located in Nouakchott.

II. Summary of proposed changes in established and temporary posts by component and subprogramme

A. Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

<i>Component/Subprogramme</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Executive direction and management	(1)	GS (OL)	Abolishment of 1 post of Team Assistant	Reductions reflect redistribution of work
Subprogramme 1 Prevention, management and resolution of conflict	(1)	P-2	Abolishment of 1 post of Associate Political Affairs Officer in the Eastern Africa Division	
	(1)	P-3	Abolishment of 1 post of Political Affairs Officer in the Central and Southern Africa Division	
	(1)	P-3	Abolishment of 1 post of Political Affairs Officers in the Middle East Division	
Total	(4)			

Abbreviation: GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

B. Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	1	National Professional Officer	Redeployment of 1 post of Coordination Officer from Ramallah to Jerusalem	To support the Deputy Special Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator/Resident Coordinator in coordinating the development activities of the 22-member United Nations country team, and to work on the implementation of the United Nations engagement strategy on East Jerusalem
Total	1			

III. Overview of financial and post resources by entity and funding source

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	<i>Regular budget</i>			<i>Other assessed</i>			<i>Extrabudgetary</i>			<i>Total</i>		
	<i>2019 appropriation</i>	<i>2020 estimate (before recosting)</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>2019 estimate</i>	<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>2019 estimate</i>	<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>	<i>2019 estimate</i>	<i>2020 estimate</i>	<i>Variance</i>
Financial resources												
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs	46 041.2	45 159.4	(881.8)	–	–	–	37 844.0	39 469.7	1 625.7	83 885.2	84 629.1	743.9
Special political missions	655 548.7	643 875.0	(11 673.7)	–	–	–	20 492.4	15 344.4	(5 148.0)	676 041.1	659 219.4	(16 821.7)
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	8 558.0	8 558.0	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	8 558.0	8 558.0	–
United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory	2 891.3	2 891.3	–	–	–	–	200.0	200.0	–	3 091.3	3 091.3	–
United Nations Office to the African Union	1 040.0	1 040.0	–	7 325.5	7 638.1	312.6	757.5	176.2	(581.3)	9 123.0	8 854.3	(268.7)
Office of Counter-Terrorism	1 587.1	1 587.1	–	–	–	–	31 910.0	39 171.0	7 261.0	33 497.1	40 758.1	7 261.0
Total	715 666.3	703 110.8	(12 555.5)	7 325.5	7 638.1	312.6	91 203.9	94 361.3	3 157.4	814 195.7	805 110.2	(9 085.5)
Post resources												
Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs	279	275	(4)	–	–	–	58	58	–	337	333	(4)
Special political missions	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	65	65	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	65	65	–
United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory	19	19	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	19	19	–
United Nations Office to the African Union	6	6	–	50	50	–	4	2	(2)	60	58	(2)
Office of Counter-Terrorism	8	8	–	–	–	–	74	126	52	82	134	52
Total	377	373	(4)	50	50	–	136	186	50	563	609	46