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Proposed programme budget for 2022

Part IV

International cooperation for development

Section 10

Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

Programme 8

Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

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* [A/76/50](#).

** 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.



Foreword

The disruption caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is global, but the capacity to respond to this pandemic is uneven across the world. For many of the countries that the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States works with every day, the events of 2020 confirmed how interconnected we have become and how fragile we are when that interconnectedness is taken away. By their very nature, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States are particularly vulnerable to external shocks. In the spring of 2020, while advanced economies were already enacting large-scale economic and health-care interventions, my Office quickly set about championing the needs of the vulnerable members of the global family with the least capacity to respond.

Through the year, I led a series of dialogues between least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and key partners on the means to support vulnerable country groups in mitigating the fallout of COVID-19 and building back better and stronger. The virtual meetings involved various United Nations entities, development partners, international financial institutions, private sector representatives and civil society. I took the opportunity to advocate for vulnerable states to have the fiscal space needed to expand health and social protection programmes and mitigate the challenges presented by the pandemic. In particular, my Office lent its voice to the calls of some G20 countries for debt relief and other financial support. Also, upon request, my Office supported the efforts by the Groups of Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries to articulate their positions on COVID-19 in joint statements on a number of thematic areas critical to recovery from COVID-19. The sum of all these efforts and those of important stakeholders contributed to some tangible results, one of them being the Debt Service Suspension Initiative, a temporary suspension of official debt payments, to which the majority of least developed countries are eligible.

Amid the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic and in response to a request by the landlocked developing countries group, my Office facilitated the formulation and the adoption of the road map for accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. The road map outlines practical solutions to tackle the structural challenges of landlocked developing countries, to help them to build back better and to achieve development aspirations as set out in their Programmes of Action, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals.

My office also launched the campaign entitled the Most Vulnerable 91, which helps track the extent to which the international community delivers its COVID-19-related commitments towards the most vulnerable countries. It was encouraging to see such a broad and global constituency, from governments, the United Nations, think tanks, civil society, the media, private sector and more, to engage so constructively about the needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and what can be done to enhance their resilience.

In 2022, my Office will advocate, forge partnerships, coordinate and monitor international efforts, all in support of enabling the most vulnerable countries to reach internationally agreed goals – including, crucially, the outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. We will redouble our focus on promoting enhanced preparedness against future shocks through the implementation of the new programme of action for least developed countries, the agreed road map for landlocked developing countries and the outcome of the midterm review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway.

The COVID-19 pandemic is not going to be a one-year event and the disease itself and its aftermath will affect the most vulnerable countries likely for years to come. Monitoring and tracking vaccine access will be a cornerstone of future iterations of the #MostVulnerable91 digital dashboard. It will also inform our work to mitigate the serious capacity and institutional constraints faced by the most vulnerable countries to integrate programmes of action and other internationally agreed development goals into their national planning and budget systems. As we ramp up preparations for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, which will be held in Doha in January 2022, we maintain focus on the nations in all three subprogrammes. To ensure no one is left behind will be a major test for all of us, as we strive to recover and rebuild.

(Signed) Fekitamoeloa **‘Utoikamanu**
Under-Secretary-General and High Representative
for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries
and Small Island Developing States

A. Proposed programme plan for 2022 and programme performance for 2020

Overall orientation

Mandates and background

- 10.1 The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States is responsible for advocating for, supporting, mobilizing, coordinating and reporting on the implementation of the programmes of action for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the achievement of other internationally agreed goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals. As the consequences of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic unfold across the world, it becomes more evident that not all countries are able to fight this disease with the same means and vigour, provide the same level of social protection for their citizens who lose jobs and incomes, support small businesses, and build back better and stronger. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States are disproportionately affected by the negative impact of COVID-19 but have the least capacity to address the consequences of the pandemic. More than before, the crisis displays the extreme vulnerability of these three groups of countries and the need for continued and stronger international attention, action and support. The mandate of the Office of the High Representative therefore becomes all the more important. The mandate derives from the priorities established in relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions, including resolution [56/227](#), whereby the Assembly decided to establish the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; resolution [65/280](#), whereby the Assembly endorsed the Istanbul Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020; resolution [69/15](#), whereby the Assembly endorsed the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway; and resolution [69/137](#), whereby the Assembly endorsed the Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024.
- 10.2 The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (General Assembly resolution [70/1](#)) supports the implementation of the three programmes of action – namely, the Istanbul Programme of Action, the Vienna Programme of Action and the Samoa Pathway – all of which are integral to the Agenda. Furthermore, in the 2030 Agenda it is indicated that, in the context of the global follow-up and review processes of the Agenda, effective linkages should be made with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including those on the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.

Strategy and external factors for 2022

- 10.3 The year 2022 constitutes an important milestone in the work of the Office of the High Representative in support of the most vulnerable countries. The COVID-19 pandemic threatens the hard-won but mixed progress made by least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in the implementation of their programmes of action and the 2030 Agenda. The pandemic has also resulted in a new array of challenges to the implementation of the programmes, while aggravating existing ones.
- 10.4 As those countries are expected to start recovering from the effects of COVID-19, the international community is expected to agree, in January 2022, on a renewed global compact to advance the sustainable development of least developed countries, for the last decade of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As the implementation of this new compact begins, the two other constituencies of the Office of the High Representative – landlocked developing countries and small island developing States – and their development partners will also enter the last mile of their journey towards the target date by which they committed to overcome disadvantages associated with their geographical

locations, the structure of their economies and their ever-increasing exposure to climate change. The pace of progress during the first and last miles of their programmes of action will therefore determine whether or not these countries and their development partners meet their development aspirations, including the Sustainable Development Goals.

- 10.5 In view of the above challenges, the Office of the High Representative will forge broad and durable partnerships, including within the United Nations system and outside the system, for the advancement of sustainable development in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small and island developing States. Cognizant of the importance of the involvement of youth in the implementation and follow up to the programmes of action for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, the enhanced cooperation with the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth to foster the involvement, participation and input of youth in intergovernmental negotiations and official United Nations processes. The Office of the High Representative will also step up efforts aimed at producing data-driven analysis, taking advantage of new tools, including machine learning techniques. The knowledge and data generated by the Office of the High Representative will inform its advocacy and outreach and capacity-building activities. As part of its advocacy mandate, the Office of the High Representative will raise awareness, mobilize support and build consensus. The key audiences will continue to be built both in the most vulnerable countries, as well as in partner countries and in regional and global organizations and forums. The Office of the High Representative will also mobilize resources to ensure that least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States participate in the process and have their voices heard in global deliberations. These resources will also enable the representatives from the most vulnerable countries to benefit from capacity-building activities, peer-learning and the exchange of best practices, all on thematic areas relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals and to building resilience in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 10.6 For 2022, the planned deliverables and activities of the Office of the High Representative reflect the known and anticipated challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic that are being faced by Member States. Such planned deliverables and activities include knowledge generation, advocacy, capacity-building, and intergovernmental support and consensus building, all aimed at supporting the efforts of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States to build back better and increase their resilience in the face of multiple shocks. Specific examples of such planned deliverables and activities are provided under subprogramme 1, Least developed countries and include analytical materials and facilitation of peer-learning on poverty eradication and structural transformation, and capacity-building on graduation and smooth transition; under subprogramme 2, Landlocked developing countries and include substantive backstopping support to the group of landlocked developing countries, and analytical and advocacy materials along with capacity-building on the priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action; and under subprogramme 3, Small island developing States and include advocacy activities for enhanced support and increased resources for small island developing States in addressing the impact of COVID-19, facilitation of collaborative partnerships, especially between those States and the private sector; and peer learning and the exchange of best practices through the small island developing States national focal points network.
- 10.7 The mainstreaming of the new programme of action for least developed countries and acceleration of the implementation of the programmes of action for landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, in synergy with the 2030 Agenda and other global frameworks, will be at the core of the cooperation between the Office of the High Representative and other entities at the global, regional, national and local levels. The forums through which this cooperation will take place include the national focal points networks of the three groups of countries, similar networks of resident coordinator and the inter-agency consultative groups for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.
- 10.8 Comprised of government representatives, the networks of national focal points for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, to which the Office

of the High Representative will provide substantive secretariat support, will serve as an interface between the global and regional processes and national policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and review. By acting as a facilitator and a convener of the meetings of these networks, the Office will enable members of networks to remain engaged at a time when the sharing of information, lessons learned and best practices on building back better in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath is more important than ever.

- 10.9 The Office of the High Representative will carry out similar functions for the resident coordinator networks for the three groups of countries. These networks will help promote mainstreaming of the programmes of action into the United Nations strategic plans and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework along with supporting resident coordinators to engage with Member States on the ground on specific issues relating to the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.
- 10.10 The inter-agency consultative groups for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island development States, of which the Office of the High Representative is a convener, will guide inter-agency coordination and liaison at the regional and global levels. The groups provide platforms where United Nations entities and other international organizations exchange information not their work on the most vulnerable countries, strengthen coordination of their activities and mount joint inter-agency activities.
- 10.11 With regard to the external factors, the overall plan for 2022 is based on the following planning assumptions:
 - (a) The security and political situation in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and in their surrounding regions is conducive to the implementation of the three programmes of actions, namely, the new programme of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2021–2030, the Vienna Programme of Action and the Samoa Pathway;
 - (b) Continued international support measures in the areas of development finance, market access, technology and technical assistance are made available by their development partners to support these countries.
- 10.12 With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, the proposed programme plan is based on the assumption that the proposed deliverables and activities for 2022 will be feasible to implement. However, if the pandemic were to continue to have an impact on the planned deliverables and activities, they would be adjusted during 2022 within the scope of the overall objectives, strategies and mandates. Any such adjustments would be reported as part of the programme performance information.
- 10.13 The Office of the High Representative continues to mainstream disability inclusion and the rights and development of persons with disabilities into its programme of work and will continue to mainstream inclusion in its reports, following the example of the annual flagship publication, the State of the Least Developed Countries in 2020, that included a dedicated section on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on persons with disabilities. The Office is also promoting consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities, including in the preparations for the upcoming Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 2022, with the aim to raise awareness about the needs and priorities of persons with disabilities living in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and to promote disability inclusion in the implementation of the three programmes for action for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States.
- 10.14 The Office of the High Representative also integrates a gender perspective in its operational activities, deliverables and results, as appropriate. For example, results in subprogrammes 1 and 2 reflect gender-related aspects.

Programme performance in 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on programme delivery

- 10.15 During 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the planned deliverables and activities of the Office. The Office of the High Representative has made necessary adjustments both on the modalities and on the content of its programme delivery so as to be responsive to the needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States in the context of COVID-19. The Office generated all mandated parliamentary documentation except that pertaining to the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, which was postponed to 2022. The content of all the reports accounts for the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for increased support for the most vulnerable countries so that they can build back better. The Office of the High Representative also continued to provide much of the planned substantive backstopping support to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small and island developing States in inter-agency and inter-governmental deliberations that have been conducted through virtual means. Deliverables that are difficult to conduct virtually, either because the beneficiaries live in different time zones or lack broadband connectivity or both, were postponed.
- 10.16 At the same time, however, some planned deliverables and new activities were identified during 2020, within the overall scope of the objectives of the subprogrammes, in order to support Member States on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office of the High Representative contributed to fostering dialogues on the global responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, as they relate to the three groups of countries. In addition to providing substantive inputs to the formulation of the United Nations Secretariat's response to the pandemic, the Office has facilitated a series of briefings between the three groups and the Deputy Secretary-General and other officials from the United Nations development system. These meetings were opportunities for the representatives of the United Nations system to inform the three groups of countries on ongoing efforts at the national, regional and global levels and to hear from them how they could be better supported. Also, upon request, the Office has assisted least developed countries and landlocked developing countries in formulating their positions on COVID-19, in the form of group statements, along with joint positions by the Office and other United Nations entities. This support also extends to the intergovernmental negotiations on the General Assembly resolution on COVID-19.
- 10.17 Reflecting the importance of continuous improvement and responding to the evolving needs of Member States, the Office of the High Representative will mainstream lessons learned and best practices related to the adjustments to and adaptation of its programme owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. On the one hand, convening events through virtual means has enabled the Office to reach a wider audience and to increase the number of stakeholders, especially in partner countries where the majority of the population has access to broadband connectivity. This provides an opportunity for increased awareness of special challenges and priorities of the most vulnerable countries. On the other hand, participants based in least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States have been relatively disadvantaged as they face various constraints, including limited broadband connectivity, as well as time differences. Further, holding of virtual deliberations came at the cost of limited possibilities for networking and side discussions, which are important means to advance the development agenda of the three groups of countries. Building on these lessons, the Office will opt for modalities of delivery of peer-learning activities that build on the advantages of virtual and in-person interactions while minimizing their respective shortcomings.

Legislative mandates

- 10.18 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the programme.

General Assembly resolutions

56/227	Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	70/294	Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020
59/311	International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	74/3	Political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
65/280	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020		
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway		
69/137	Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	74/15	Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development		

Deliverables

10.19 Table 10.1 lists all cross-cutting deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022.

Table 10.1

Cross-cutting deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	6	9	7	7
1. Meetings of the groups of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States	3	6	4	4
2. Meetings of the Fifth Committee	1	1	1	1
3. Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination	1	1	1	1
4. Meetings of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	1	1	1	1
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Publications (number of publications)	–	–	1	1
5. Thematic reports of the Office of the High Representative	–	–	1	1
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: briefing for all Member States on issues pertaining to all three subprogrammes.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: building and maintenance of databases on topics of relevance to Member States, including but not limited to the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic and achievement of goals under the various programmes of action.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: strategic communications materials supporting global outreach campaigns, campaigns and other materials supporting common agendas, especially the Sustainable Development Goals.				
External and media relations: press releases, media briefings and targeted interviews with select media.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: development of the website of the Office of the High Representative, reflecting key thematic priorities and support events, providing a platform for research, analysis and opinion on major themes.				

Evaluation activities

- 10.20 The evaluation of the Office of the High Representative, completed in 2020, has guided the programme plan for 2022.
- 10.21 The findings of the evaluation referenced above have been taken into account for the proposed programme plan for 2022. For example, the Office of the High Representative has developed an office-wide advocacy and communication strategy, as recommended in the evaluation. This strategy has informed the choice, content and modalities of delivery of advocacy and communication-related deliverables contained in the proposed programme plan for 2022. Also, the Office has leveraged knowledge management in producing its deliverables.
- 10.22 An evaluation of the project entitled “Strengthening productive capacity in least developed countries through providing an enabling environment for investment in sustainable energy development” is planned for 2022.

Programme of work

Subprogramme 1

Least developed countries

Objective

- 10.23 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen policies to eradicate poverty in the least developed countries and accelerate structural transformation of their economies; and to ensure effective graduation from the least developed country category.

Strategy

- 10.24 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to provide support to Member States in their intergovernmental processes related to the priorities of least developed countries, including by leading the preparations for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and supporting the implementation of its outcome. The subprogramme also plans to prepare analytical materials on how to address the specific challenges of the least developed countries and will facilitate related exchanges of experiences and peer learning on critical enablers to poverty eradication and structural transformation. The subprogramme will continue its advocacy activities related to resource mobilization for sustainable development in the least developed countries. The subprogramme will therefore support Member States in making progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
- 10.25 The subprogramme will continue to provide support to countries graduating from the least developed countries category through workshops and technical support on establishing consultative mechanisms with development partners and preparing smooth transition strategies. The subprogramme will continue to facilitate peer learning, as graduating countries can benefit from the experience of countries that have already graduated.
- 10.26 The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by providing policy advice relevant to least developed countries towards building back better and enhancing resilience, including support for building partnerships.
- 10.27 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
 - (a) Enhanced capacity by the least developed countries to accelerate progress towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, including the goals of the outcome of the Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

- (b) Enhanced capacity of graduating countries with respect to a smooth transition out of the least developed country category.
- 10.28 The planned support on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to result in enhanced preparedness for future shocks through mainstreaming of a new programme of action for least developed countries.

Programme performance in 2020

- 10.29 Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

Improved Internet access in least developed countries

- 10.30 Information and communications technology (ICT), which is reflected in target 9.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, can advance the competitiveness of countries and enhance the personal lives of users, especially in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the digital divide remains wide. In 2019, 87 per cent of individuals in developed countries used the Internet, compared with 19 per cent in least developed countries, with even less users among women (13.9 per cent).
- 10.31 The subprogramme supported the working group on vulnerable countries of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development in 2017 and 2018, which was chaired by the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative. Two regional meetings were organized on broadband connectivity, where the need to leverage investment in broadband Internet to advance development was flagged. Industry leaders held networking meetings with government officials, which facilitated partnership building. Case studies on Cambodia, Rwanda, Senegal and Vanuatu were shared to generate knowledge and share best practices.
- 10.32 The subprogramme also contributed to the Broadband Commission working groups in 2020, including the working group on the digital infrastructure moonshot for Africa, chaired by the World Bank, which intends to double Internet connectivity in Africa by 2021; and a school connectivity project chaired by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the International Telecommunication Union, leading to the launch of the Giga initiative, which will initially advise six least developed countries on the best possible technical solutions to provide schools with connectivity, and to equip these countries with the required infrastructure to support future digital development needs, in partnership with the industry. Recent references to the connectivity issues in least developed countries include the report entitled *The State of Broadband 2020: Tackling Digital Inequalities – A Decade for Action* and various outcomes of the Broadband Commission. Internet connectivity activities were undertaken by the international community in several least developed countries. The members of the Broadband Commission called for improved connectivity and networks, "including for vulnerable populations in least developed countries" in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The analytical work of the subprogramme provided support for the Chair of the Group of the Least Developed Countries for his contributions to the Global Connectivity Implementation Plan. As a result, in the Secretary-General's Road Map for Digital Cooperation it was recognized that least developed countries are the least connected; and least developed countries called upon their development partners to make available the financial resources and expertise in this respect in the 2020 Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 10.33 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the enhanced commitment from multiple stakeholders to support least developed countries towards the goal of achieving universal connectivity, as the share of Internet users in least developed countries has risen from 5.5 per cent in 2010 to 19.1 per cent in 2019, and the involvement of least developed countries in designing a Global Connectivity Implementation Plan, which aims to ensure that every person has safe and affordable access to the Internet by 2030 (see table 10.2).

Table 10.2
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
Activities of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development increased the knowledge of least developed countries and their partners on how to leverage investment in broadband for national development and building partnerships for example, between ICT industry leaders and Governments of least developed countries	Three least developed countries initiate discussions with potential investors on digital investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced commitment from multiple stakeholders to support least developed countries towards the goal of achieving universal connectivity Involvement of least developed countries in designing a Global Connectivity Implementation Plan, which aims to ensure that every person has safe and affordable access to the Internet by 2030

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 10.34 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, Member States decided to postpone to 2021 the inter-governmental preparatory meetings, at the regional and global levels, for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. Preparations for some of these meetings had been at an advanced stage. Together with the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic and given the sequential nature of the preparatory process, this also led to the need to reschedule the Conference itself, originally planned for March 2021 as established by the General Assembly in its resolution [74/232 B](#).
- 10.35 At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified additional deliverables and modified existing ones so as to respond to requests for support from Member States in developing policies to reduce the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, namely fostering dialogue on global responses to the specific needs of least developed countries to combat the spread of the virus and its devastating health, social and economic impacts. The subprogramme supported the least developed countries group in the formulation of its position paper on COVID-19, advocating for a comprehensive support package. It also facilitated a virtual briefing to the least developed countries by the Deputy-Secretary-General, as well as a series of webinars, providing information on policy options and available support with involvement of various stakeholders. The workshop for national focal points of least developed countries was held virtually, with the participation of resident coordinators, and offered a platform for peer learning and exchanges on country responses to the pandemic. The theme of the next state of the least developed countries report was reconceptualized to focus on the multifaceted impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the least developed countries and ways to enhance their resilience. In addition, the subprogramme held some of the planned meetings in virtual format owing to travel restrictions, including the annual ministerial meeting of the least developed countries.

Planned results for 2022

- 10.36 The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: United Nations system support for graduation of least developed countries extended¹**Programme performance in 2020**

- 10.37 The subprogramme has continued to ensure better coordinated United Nations system support to graduating least developed countries, in line with its mandate. The subprogramme convened three sessions of the inter-agency task force on graduation of least developed countries, including one session dedicated to the Solomon Islands, in close cooperation with the resident coordinator, crafting a common programme of work to assist the Government in the formulation of a smooth transition strategy. The subprogramme also collaborated with the secretariat of the Committee for Development Policy in supporting a meeting on graduation in Lao People's Democratic Republic. Furthermore, it provided policy advice and assistance to Vanuatu (which graduated on 4 December 2020), which led to the adoption of General Assembly resolution [75/128](#), inviting development partners to provide full support to the implementation of the Vanuatu smooth transition strategy.
- 10.38 The above-mentioned work contributed to one least developed country having prepared a smooth transition strategy and one having started preparing such strategy, which partially met the planned target of at least two least developed countries having prepared such strategy reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.39 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will support the elaboration of options for strengthening support measures for graduating countries that Member States may consider. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 10.3).

Table 10.3
Performance measure

<i>2018 (actual)</i>	<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (planned)^a</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>
The least developed countries currently scheduled for graduation have not completed smooth transition strategies	Least developed countries scheduled for graduation begin preparations for smooth transition strategies, supported by United Nations agencies	One least developed country prepared a smooth transition strategy and one having started preparing such strategy	Graduating and graduated countries share experiences and lessons learned	Member States adopt strengthened support measures for graduating countries

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 2: a new global framework to boost sustainable development progress in those countries that are lagging the most behind²**Programme performance in 2020**

- 10.40 The subprogramme has modified its approach and strategy to adapt to the unprecedented circumstances brought by the COVID-19 pandemic to the work of the United Nations. The major intergovernmental preparatory meetings at regional and global level that had been planned in 2020 in the lead up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries had to be postponed. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [74/232 B](#), the meetings have been rescheduled

¹ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 ([A/74/6 \(Sect. 10\)](#)).

² As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6/Add.1](#)).

to 2021 and the Conference to 2022. The subprogramme in 2020 developed partnership plans to ensure broad-based and inclusive multi-stakeholder participation in the preparatory process for the Conference, in partnership with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Least Developed Countries Watch, the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth and the Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, in cooperation with the United Nations system and other organizations, including through virtual briefings, with active participation of private sector and civil society representatives.

- 10.41 The above-mentioned work contributed to the participation of multi-stakeholder partners in the preparatory meetings for the conference, which met the planned target reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.42 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will support and facilitate effective partnerships with various stakeholders. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 10.4).

Table 10.4

Performance measure

<i>2018 (actual)</i>	<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (planned)^a</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>
Member States adopt General Assembly resolution 73/242 , deciding to convene the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries	Member States adopt General Assembly resolution 74/232 , in which they call for the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in the Conference	Multi-stakeholder partners participated in the preparatory meetings for the Conference	Adoption of a new action-oriented programme of action for the least developed countries that reflects the views of all stakeholders	Member States implement effective partnerships with various stakeholders

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 3: accelerated progress towards sustainable development through the implementation of a new programme of action for least developed countries

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.43 Before the COVID-19 pandemic, least developed countries had been making some progress in implementing the priority areas of the Istanbul Programme of Action, which has since been jeopardized. Multiple crises remain prevalent among them and risk derailing progress towards sustainable development with high and recently increasing poverty and gender inequality.
- 10.44 COVID-19 has also significantly affected productive capacity and trade and reduced gross domestic product growth. Together with the widening fiscal deficit and the drop of foreign direct investments and remittances in most of the least developed countries, as well as resulting unsustainable debt levels, it is expected that the effects of COVID-19 will jeopardize progress towards sustainable development for years to come.
- 10.45 COVID-19 also exacerbated the serious capacity and institutional constraints many of the Governments of the least developed countries were facing to integrate the Istanbul Programme of Action and other internationally agreed development goals into their national planning and budget systems.

- 10.46 The subprogramme has engaged with Member States and relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations system, to prepare for the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, which is expected to agree on an ambitious programme of action supporting least developed countries in their efforts to embark on building back better and increase resilience towards future shocks.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 10.47 The lesson for the subprogramme was that, according to a report on United Nations system support to the least developed countries, enhanced coherence and prioritization could help the United Nations being more effective on the ground. It recommends that special needs of least developed countries should be mainstreamed into strategic plans and integrated into the annual work programmes of the United Nations system and other international organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will intensify its collaboration with other United Nations entities. The subprogramme will support the Secretary-General in convening a United Nations system high-level event during the conference, with a view to ensuring the full mobilization of the United Nations system in support of the least developed countries. The subprogramme will also focus its efforts on enhancing coordination of the system support for the least developed countries, including prioritization of the least developed countries in programmes of work and enhanced technical support to overcome their challenges in implementing the new programme of action for least developed countries to be adopted as an outcome of the Conference on Least Developed Countries. A specific focus will be on gender mainstreaming as one of the core enablers of sustainable development.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 10.48 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by 10 least developed countries mainstreaming the new programme of action into their development plans with support from the United Nations system. The mainstreaming is expected to strengthen policies to eradicate poverty and accelerate structural transformation (see table 10.5).

Table 10.5
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
—	Inter-agency meetings held to mobilize United Nations agencies to support implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action and the preparations of the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries	Report on United Nations support to least developed countries published, recommending mainstreaming and prioritization of such support	Contributions of United Nations agencies in preparatory process for the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, analysing challenges and making commitments for enhanced support to least developed countries	Ten least developed countries mainstreaming the new programme of action into their development plans with support from the United Nations system

Legislative mandates

- 10.49 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolution

74/232 Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Economic and Social Council resolution

2020/16 Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

Deliverables

10.50 Table 10.6 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 10.6

Subprogramme 1: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	4	1	10	7
1. Reports to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, including on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020	1	1	1	1
2. Official documents for the intergovernmental preparatory committee for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	3	–	3	–
3. Official documents for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	–	–	6	6
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	58	41	71	59
4. Meetings of the General Assembly	13	10	13	13
5. Meetings of the Economic and Social Council, including on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the least developed countries and the high-level political forum on sustainable development	10	10	10	10
6. Regional review meetings on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries	4	–	2	–
7. Annual ministerial meetings of the least developed countries and related consultations	5	5	5	5
8. Meetings of ad hoc expert groups on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and related priority topics thereof	3	3	3	3
9. Meetings of the Group of Least Developed Countries	10	10	10	10
10. Meeting of the intergovernmental preparatory committee for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	8	–	10	–
11. Pre-conference events for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	5	3	–	–
12. Meetings of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	–	–	18	18
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	6	5	6	8
13. Workshops for national focal points of least developed countries, ministerial meeting and round-table discussions on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries	4	3	4	6
14. Forums for main stakeholders on partnerships for least developed countries	2	2	2	2

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
Technical materials (number of materials)	13	11	8	14
15. Report on the state of the least developed countries	1	–	1	1
16. Reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and synergies with the Sustainable Development Goals and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development	3	2	3	–
17. Report on the preparations of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries	1	1	–	–
18. Report on progress towards the graduation of the least developed countries (electronic)	–	–	–	1
19. Reports on the implementation of specific areas of the new programme of action for the least developed countries	–	–	–	4
20. Thematic think pieces and background notes on key issues relating to the least developed countries (electronic)	8	8	4	8

C. Substantive deliverables

Consultation, advice and advocacy: provision of substantive support to the Group of Least Developed Countries; briefing of all Member States on the work of the Office of the High Representative and of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries; advice on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries; provision of substantive advice for the meetings of the High-Level Committee on Programmes and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination; support the work of the Broadband Commission and participation in meetings to advocate for support towards the least developed countries.

D. Communication deliverables

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: promotional materials on the global outreach campaign raising awareness of and accountability of Member States and other stakeholders towards the Programme of Action arising from the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries; communications campaigns on upcoming graduations, advocating for enhanced smooth transition measures.

External and media relations: press releases and press conferences on issues relating to the least developed countries; editorial opinions (op-eds) ensuring that least developed countries issues are at the forefront of international development discourse.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: online information on issues relating to the least developed countries; information campaign (including videos, infographics and other social media material) on progress achieved in the Programme of Action for Least Developed Countries; and a web page on the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, providing information on its outcome for all Member States and other relevant stakeholders.

Subprogramme 2 Landlocked developing countries

Objective

- 10.51 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to strengthen policies and capacities to improve the connectivity of landlocked developing countries, with the aim of supporting their sustainable development, reduce their trade transaction costs, increase their regional cooperation and increase their regional, subregional and global trade and strengthen their institutions and social and environmental protection; and to increase structural transformation in landlocked developing countries for sustainable development.

Strategy

- 10.52 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to provide support to Member States in their intergovernmental processes, including extending evidence-based substantive support to landlocked developing countries in the context of their group meetings, in line with the Vienna

Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, the 2030 Agenda, the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and the Paris Agreement. The subprogramme will also undertake analytical work related to the priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action, the outcome of which will inform both the backstopping support, as well as capacity-building and advocacy activities. Furthermore, the subprogramme will organize capacity-building activities, facilitate the exchange of experiences and peer learning among landlocked developing countries and transit developing countries on the priorities for action of the Vienna Programme of Action. The subprogramme will also continue its advocacy activities for enhanced international support towards the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action and of the Political Declaration of its High-level Midterm Review and of the 2030 Agenda. The subprogramme will also coordinate and monitor the effective implementation of the road map for accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action.

- 10.53 The subprogramme will also continue to provide substantive support to landlocked developing countries, including through analytical reports and workshops, to facilitate interaction with relevant international organizations and the private sector, to encourage experience-sharing and peer learning among Member States and to strengthen inter-agency coordination and the coherence of implementation at the national, regional and global levels and the effective implementation of the road map.
- 10.54 The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by undertaking analytical work on the impact of COVID-19 on landlocked developing countries, integrating COVID-19 in the work addressing the priority areas of the Vienna Programme of Action, promoting sharing experiences between landlocked developing countries, as well as advocating for enhanced support towards recovery.
- 10.55 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in:
 - (a) Increased support towards landlocked developing countries from the international community, including the United Nations system, to address the needs and challenges arising from landlockedness;
 - (b) Increased adoption by landlocked developing countries of initiatives to enhance transit and trade facilitation;
 - (c) Enhanced capacity of landlocked developing countries to devise and formulate policies that promote structural changes in their economies.
- 10.56 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in enhanced capacity of landlocked developing countries to formulate policies that foster recovery and build their resilience.

Programme performance in 2020

- 10.57 Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

Enhanced transit and trade to landlocked developing countries during COVID-19

- 10.58 The introduction of cross-border restrictions aimed at combating the spread of COVID-19 by neighbouring countries affected the smooth flow of imported essential goods and services to landlocked developing countries, including medical and pharmaceutical products and food. In response, the subprogramme enhanced its advocacy activities calling on transit developing countries and landlocked developing countries to keep borders open, facilitate transit and increase transparency on trade related measures introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 10.59 The subprogramme coordinated the preparation of a joint United Nations call for smooth transit and transport facilitation to and from landlocked developing countries and a joint statement with the World Customs Organization on facilitating trade and transit during the COVID-19 pandemic. The subprogramme also provided substantive support in drafting the landlocked developing countries call for

action on COVID-19, as well as the outcome of the annual ministerial meeting of landlocked developing countries. The statements and outcome of the ministerial meeting encouraged landlocked developing countries and transit countries to keep cross-border transport networks for goods and supply chains open, while protecting the safety of transport workers and citizens, and called on governments and border and customs agencies to work together to simplify, facilitate and fast-track clearance of critical medical equipment and basic goods such as food to landlocked developing countries. The subprogramme advocated for enhanced cross-border collaboration and strengthening of regional cooperation between landlocked developing countries and transit countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 10.60 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by two Member States adopting initiatives to facilitating trade and transit during COVID-19 (see table 10.7). For example, Nepal's customs formed a quick response team to ensure that essential goods were cleared within two hours and Bhutan implemented zero contact clearance procedures and release consignments with minimal interference.

Table 10.7
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
—	—	Two Member States adopted initiatives to facilitating trade and transit during COVID-19

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 10.61 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme postponed the delivery of training aimed at building the capacity of the landlocked developing countries to prepare bankable infrastructure projects for improving transport connectivity for landlocked developing countries under the technical cooperation project on the strengthening of the participation of landlocked developing countries in relevant regional and bilateral cooperation frameworks and their accession to international conventions, and corridor development. These changes resulted in a delay in landlocked developing countries accessing financing for infrastructure development.
- 10.62 At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified new and modified activities to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives. The subprogramme provided substantive support to landlocked developing countries on consultations on their group position on COVID-19, and also supported their bureau and ambassadorial meetings. The subprogramme also coordinated the preparation of a joint United Nations call for smooth transit and transport facilitation to and from landlocked developing countries that included the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic Commission for Europe. The subprogramme also prepared a joint statement with the World Customs Organization on facilitating trade and transit during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic led to the virtual organization of the Inter-Agency Consultative Group Meetings on the preparation of the road map for accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action which was adopted at the ministerial meeting of landlocked developing countries. The subprogramme prepared an analysis on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic that was included in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action ([A/75/285](#)). The subprogramme also held several events virtually and integrated the focus on COVID-19 at those events. The new and modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the result 1 below.

Planned results for 2022

- 10.63 The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans, and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: accelerating the connectivity of landlocked developing countries³

Programme performance in 2020

- 10.64 The subprogramme has continued its work related to supporting landlocked developing countries and transit countries to improve connectivity and trade facilitation. The subprogramme had to adjust its planned activities and support in the light of the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead of planned capacity-building activities for landlocked developing countries and transit countries, the subprogramme focused on facilitating sharing experiences on effective solutions to enhance connectivity of landlocked developing countries and on the adoption and implementation of simplified and harmonized international trade procedures. Furthermore, the subprogramme used its advocacy and coordination role to promote international action to ensure smooth transit and transport facilitation to and from landlocked developing countries in the light of the measures taken to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- 10.65 The above-mentioned work contributed to the adoption and implementation of simplified and harmonized international trade procedures by two landlocked developing countries, which partially met the planned target of at least two landlocked developing countries having prepared bankable road infrastructure projects that are ready for investment and adopting and implementing simplified and harmonized international trade procedures reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic resulted in challenges in planning and providing the capacity-building activities for landlocked developing countries and transit countries towards developing bankable road infrastructure projects. Despite those challenges, Turkmenistan ratified six international agreements and protocols regulating international transport in Eurasia and Lao People's Democratic Republic deposited its instrument of ratification of Intergovernmental Agreement on Dry Ports.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.66 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will undertake capacity-building activities, in cooperation with other United Nations entities, regional and international organizations, to scale up best practices in developing bankable infrastructure projects and corridor development and other solutions to increase the connectivity of landlocked developing countries. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 10.8).

Table 10.8
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Landlocked developing countries have indicated an interest in capacity-building on developing bankable infrastructure projects and on the adoption	Landlocked developing countries undertake capacity-building, on the development of bankable infrastructure projects and on the	Two landlocked developing countries have adopted and implemented simplified and harmonized	At least two tangible initiatives on transit, trade facilitation, corridor development and structural economic transformation are	At least two landlocked developing countries have prepared bankable infrastructure projects that are ready for investment

³ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 10)).

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
and implementation of simplified and harmonized international trade procedures	adoption and implementation of simplified and harmonized international trade procedures	international trade procedures	implemented by landlocked developing countries and transit countries	or implemented other transit and trade facilitation solutions to increase connectivity

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 2: enhanced transit to facilitate greater trade potential for landlocked developing countries⁴

Programme performance in 2020

- 10.67 The subprogramme prepared a report that raised awareness among landlocked developing countries on best practices to develop enabling instruments to support corridor functions and for infrastructure development, trade and transport facilitation. The subprogramme also coordinated the preparation of a joint United Nations call for smooth transit and trade and transport facilitation to and from landlocked developing countries during the COVID-19 pandemic. The subprogramme also prepared a report on improved transport connectivity to landlocked developing countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 10.68 The above-mentioned work contributed to the adoption of General Assembly resolution [75/233](#) and the adoption of three tangible initiatives on transit, trade facilitation and structural economic transformation that are being implemented by landlocked developing countries and transit countries which met the planned target reflected in the programme budget for 2021. The initiatives include the digitalization of export procedures by Paraguay, in 2020, to facilitate the faster movement of goods; and some landlocked developing countries implemented measures to fast-track the clearance of goods, for example in Botswana and Eswatini.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.69 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will be undertaking advocacy activities, substantive analytical work, and building capacity of landlocked developing countries on enhancing transit, transport connectivity and trade facilitation during the COVID-19 era. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 10.9).

Table 10.9
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Member States express interest in addressing transit challenges and call for rapid ratification and implementation of the World Trade Organization	Member States ratify the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade Facilitation and call upon all members that have not yet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member States adopt General Assembly resolution 75/233 Adoption of three tangible initiatives on transit, trade 	Member States adopt new initiatives to improve transit, trade facilitation and structural transformation	Increased number of Member States that report increased implementation of trade facilitation measures under the World Trade Organization

⁴ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6/Add.1](#)).

Section 10 Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

<i>2018 (actual)</i>	<i>2019 (actual)</i>	<i>2020 (actual)</i>	<i>2021 (planned)^a</i>	<i>2022 (planned)</i>
Agreement on Trade Facilitation	done so to ratify the Agreement	facilitation and structural economic transformation that are being implemented by landlocked developing countries and transit countries		Agreement on Trade Facilitation

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 3: better coordinated United Nations support to landlocked developed developing countries
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.70 Building on the momentum created by the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action, landlocked developing countries requested the Secretary-General to develop a road map for the remaining five years of the Vienna Programme of Action to accelerate its implementation. The subprogramme led the coordination of the United Nations and other international organizations in the development of the road map in 2020. The road map identified initiatives that require dedicated and urgent focus, including transit, trade and transport facilitation; energy and ICT; structural transformation; cooperation between landlocked developing countries and transit countries; means of implementation, climate change, COVID-19 and gender equality.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 10.71 The lesson for the subprogramme was that the Office of the High Representative needed to step up its efforts to coordinate United Nations support for the Vienna Programme of Action so that landlocked developing countries can fully reap the benefits associated with increased coherence and synergies. In applying the lesson and in order to foster the impact of United Nations support to the landlocked developing countries, the subprogramme will work with other United Nations agencies to advance the road map for accelerated implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. This will entail stronger engagement with the offices of resident coordinators, joint capacity-building activities, common advocacy awareness-raising campaigns and joint analytical and substantive products, which will inform policy making and inter-governmental outcomes. The subprogramme will also partner with relevant organizations, including regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization, the World Customs Organization, the World Bank and regional development banks, to facilitate coordinated and coherent implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action as well as to enhance monitoring and reporting of implementation of activities of the road map.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 10.72 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the number of Member States who implement at least five new initiatives on transit, transport, trade facilitation, energy and ICT development, and structural economic transformation included in the road map (see table 10.10).

Table 10.10
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
–	Member States call upon the United Nations system to provide support to accelerate the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action (General Assembly resolution 74/15)	Member States request the Secretary-General to prepare a road map on coordinated United Nations support to the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action	Member States implement at least two new initiatives included in the road map	Member States implement at least five new initiatives contained in the road map, including on transit, transport, trade facilitation, energy and ICT development, and structural economic transformation

Legislative mandates

10.73 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

69/137	Vienna Declaration and Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024	74/15	Political Declaration of the High-level Midterm Review on the Implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development		
73/243; 74/233; 75/228	Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries		

Deliverables

10.74 Table 10.11 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 10.11
Subprogramme 2: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Parliamentary documentation (number of documents)	1	1	1	1
1. Reports to the General Assembly, including on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for landlocked developing countries for the Decade 2014–2024	1	1	1	1
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	35	38	35	39
2. Formal meetings and informal consultations of the Second Committee of the General Assembly	13	14	13	15
3. Meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Economic and Social Council	2	2	2	2

Section 10 Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
4. Annual ministerial meetings of the landlocked developing countries and consultations on outcomes thereof, and other ministerial meetings	10	10	10	10
5. Meetings of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries	10	12	10	12
6. Expert group meeting on thematic issues (structural economic transformation, sustainable development, trade facilitation measures, COVID-19 and other relevant issues for landlocked developing countries)	—	—	—	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	3	3	3	3
7. Project on the enhancement of the analytical capacity of the International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries	1	1	1	1
8. Project on the enhancement of the role of the private sector in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action, trade facilitation and structural transformation	1	1	1	1
9. Project on the strengthening of the participation of landlocked developing countries in relevant regional and bilateral cooperation frameworks and their accession to international conventions, and corridor development	1	—	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	3	2	4	7
10. Round-table discussion on capacity-building	1	1	1	1
11. Workshop for national focal points of landlocked developing countries	—	—	—	1
12. Panel discussion on best practices	1	1	1	1
13. Events on capacity-building, best practices and thematic areas in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other United Nations practices, including COVID-19, energy, ICT, infrastructure, Sustainable Development Goal 14, climate change and desertification	1	—	2	4
Technical materials (number of materials)	5	5	4	4
14. Reports on thematic issues and indicators of the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	2	2	2	2
15. Reports on thematic development issues in landlocked developing countries	3	3	2	2
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: substantive support to the Group of Landlocked developing Countries; briefings to 32 landlocked developing countries, 34 transit countries and 28 development partners on the work of the Office of the High Representative; side events promoting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Vienna Programme of Action; substantive advice to 32 United Nations country teams and other United Nations organizations to ensure synergy and coherence in the implementation and monitoring of, and follow-up to, the Vienna Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda at the national and regional levels; and preparation of landlocked developing countries-specific inputs to United Nations system-wide monitoring and follow-up frameworks for the 2030 Agenda.				
Databases and substantive digital materials: database of indicators for landlocked developing countries.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: promotional materials on the global outreach campaign for landlocked developing countries.				
External and media relations: press releases and press conferences on issues relating to landlocked developing countries.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: updating and maintenance of online information on issues relating to landlocked developing countries; and maintenance of the subprogramme's web pages.				

Subprogramme 3

Small island developing States

Objective

- 10.75 The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to increase sustainable economic, social and environmental resilience in small island developing States.

Strategy

- 10.76 To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will advocate for the special case of small island developing States in achieving sustainable development; mobilize increased resources for those States in priority areas; provide more structured support for the facilitation of collaborative partnerships, especially between those States and the private sector; strengthen coherence and coordination at the national, regional and global levels, including by providing more structured support to the small island developing States national focal points network; and increase coordination between United Nations entities supporting those States.
- 10.77 The subprogramme plans to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19 by integrating COVID-19 recovery into the work on the implementation of the Samoa Pathway, facilitating the sharing of experiences between small island developing States, advocating for enhanced support and increased resources in addressing the impact of COVID-19, and ensuring the coherence of the support provided by the United Nations system for recovery efforts at the national, regional and global levels.
- 10.78 The above-mentioned work is expected to result in strengthened international support measures aimed at enabling small island developing States to implement the Samoa Pathway, the Paris Agreement and other priorities of those States for sustainable development.
- 10.79 The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in enhanced access to finance for small island developing States through the strengthening and development of tailored policy tools.

Programme performance in 2020

- 10.80 Programme performance in 2020 includes the below result that emerged during 2020, as well as programme performance presented under results 1 and 2 below.

Improved access for small island developing States to regional and global platforms for coordinated support

- 10.81 The United Nations prepared a comprehensive response to COVID-19 and its impacts, which included a coordinated health response, and addressed the socioeconomic aspects of the crisis. The subprogramme organized virtual regional meetings with national focal points of small island developing States to share experiences and best practices on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and on mainstreaming the Samoa Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals into national development processes, in line with the principle of building back better. During the meetings, participants from the Pacific and the Caribbean discussed the COVID-19 response frameworks of the United Nations in their respective regions and identified ways to improve access to regional and global platforms for coordinated technical support and financial and other resources, with a focus on, among other things, health, climate change, disaster risk reduction, reducing unemployment and promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. The 2020 meeting of national focal points from countries in the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea region benefited from these discussions and allowed for the exploration of ways to create or enhance access to regional platforms for the United Nations COVID-19 response. The meeting served to lay the foundation for

strengthened coordination in the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea region, which lacks a single coordinating mechanism.

Progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 10.82 The above-mentioned work contributed to the objective, as demonstrated by the fact that all 38 small island developing States benefited from the United Nations response to COVID-19 at the regional and global levels, including technical support and financial resources (see table 10.12).

Table 10.12
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)
The small island developing States national focal points network is established and inaugurated on the margins of the interregional preparatory meeting for the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway	The small island developing States national focal points network holds its second meeting, which adopts its terms of reference	All 38 small island developing States benefit from the United Nations response to COVID-19 at the regional and global levels, including technical support and financial resources

Impact of COVID-19 on subprogramme delivery

- 10.83 Owing to the impact of COVID-19 during 2020, the subprogramme changed the approach to the meetings of small island developing States national focal points and the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network Forum. For the small island developing States national focal points, the subprogramme organized three separate virtual meetings, by region – the Pacific region, the Caribbean region and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea region – instead of its usual practice of holding one meeting with all national focal points, owing to the significant time differences between the regions. The fact that separate meetings were held meant that harmonization of multi-regional issues was limited, and discussions on business network opportunities diverged widely. The Forum was divided into two parts, with thematic webinars held in 2020 and an in-person session planned for 2021. These changes had an impact on programme performance in 2020, as specified under result 1 below.
- 10.84 At the same time, however, the subprogramme identified new and modified activities to support Member States on issues related to COVID-19, within the overall scope of its objectives. The subprogramme focused on the preparation of a report on development finance in small island developing States, in which account was taken of the impact of COVID-19 and the need for increased support for small island developing States. The report was a more immediate priority for the small island developing States than the other technical materials planned, and it informed their engagement in the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond process. The publication of the other technical materials was postponed to 2021. The subprogramme also convened or supported meetings of the small island developing States national focal points, the Inter-agency Consultative Group on Small Island Developing States and the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States, and held consultations on the multi-country office review, all including a focus on COVID-19 response and recovery in small island developing States. The meetings served to facilitate a more coherent, tailored and effective United Nations system response in small island developing States. The subprogramme also held several events virtually and integrated the focus on COVID-19 in them. They included a meeting on debt risks in small island developing States on the margins of the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond process, which allowed for the development and consideration of responses and pathways to recovery specific to small island developing States. The new and modified deliverables contributed to results in 2020, as specified in the emerging result for 2020 above.

Planned results for 2022

- 10.85 The planned results for 2022 include results 1 and 2, which are updates of results presented in the preceding proposed programme plans and therefore show both the programme performance in 2020 and the proposed programme plan for 2022. Result 3 is a new planned result.

Result 1: strengthened private sector engagement on oceans⁵**Programme performance in 2020**

- 10.86 The subprogramme, in partnership with the World Ocean Council, convened a preparatory webinar for the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network Forum in November 2020 to enhance the private sector network and expertise of the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network and the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework, insofar as they relate to oceans, in support of small island developing States. Furthermore, the subprogramme partnered with small island developing States on activities to increase the engagement of the private sector in the area of oceans, including in the context of the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework.
- 10.87 The above-mentioned work contributed to 5 new Small Island Developing States Global Business Network ocean-related partnerships, which did not meet the planned target of 10 new partnerships reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020. The planned target for 2020 could not be met owing to the impact of COVID-19, which included the postponement of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, the “Our Ocean” Conference and the in-person Small Island Developing States Global Business Network Forum. As a result, there were limited opportunities to network and engage the private sector in the establishment of the ocean-related partnerships envisaged for this period.

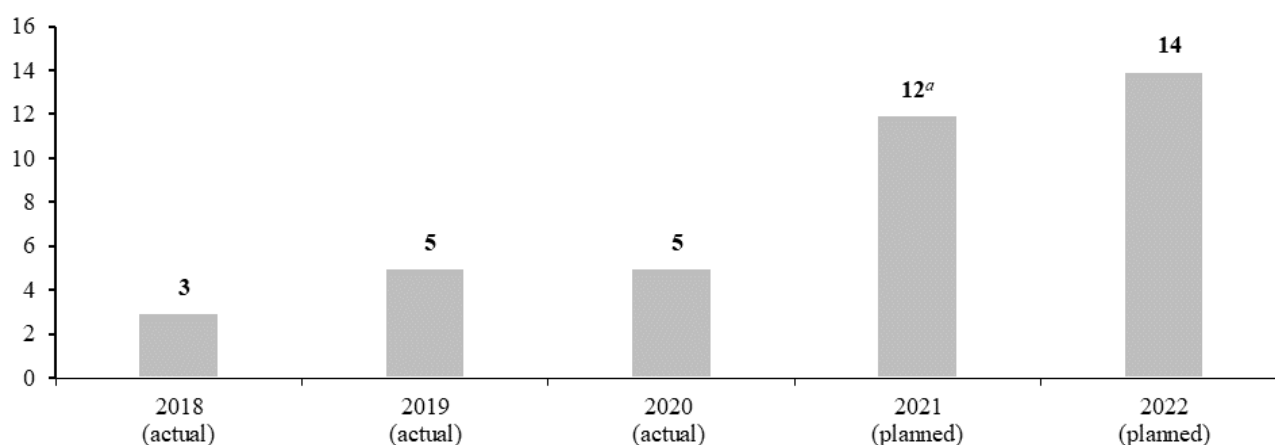
Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.88 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will implement a road map of activities related to the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network in 2022, with the aim of facilitating the establishment of more private sector partnerships with small island developing States to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 10.I).

⁵ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect. 10)).

Figure 10.I

Performance measure: total number of Small Island Developing States Global Business Network ocean-related partnerships (cumulative)



^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 2: enhanced coordination and coherence of the United Nations system to support the implementation of the Samoa Pathway⁶

Programme performance in 2020

- 10.89 The subprogramme has facilitated intergovernmental consultations to inform the final recommendations of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the multi-country office review, including a focus on the United Nations COVID-19 response framework in small island developing States.
- 10.90 The above-mentioned work contributed to the adoption of General Assembly resolution [74/297](#), which met the planned target of Member States agreeing to enhanced United Nations support with enhanced alignment with national priorities and the Samoa Pathway through the implementation of the multi-country office review, reflected in the programme budget for 2021.

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.91 The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, as outlined in General Assembly resolution [74/297](#), and in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will continue to facilitate transparent and inclusive consultations with all countries concerned throughout and after the implementation phase, for regular monitoring, reporting and follow-up with regard to the multi-country office review. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see table 10.13).

⁶ As reflected in the programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6/Add.1](#)).

Table 10.13
Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
Stakeholders participate in the regional and interregional preparatory meetings for the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, calling for, inter alia, increased coordination among the national, regional and global levels to address issues relating to small island developing States	Small island developing States strongly express a need for more targeted support in the context of the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway	Adoption of General Assembly resolution 74/297	Increased number of small island developing States that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy, strategy or plan related to climate change, climate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions	Small island developing States review the implementation of the multi-country office review, with a view to further enhancing tailored United Nations support, including strengthened policy support related to climate change, climate resilience and greenhouse gas emissions

^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

Result 3: enhanced access to finance for small island developing States through the strengthening and development of policy tools

Proposed programme plan for 2022

- 10.92 The need for enhanced access for small island developing States to concessional financing has been widely recognized as necessary to achieve the 2030 Agenda. In the political declaration of the high-level midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, adopted in 2019, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and High Representatives recognized the need to devise methodologies to better account for the complex and diverse realities of middle-income countries. Furthermore, they noted the need to analyse possible measures to expand eligibility for finance through exceptions and multidimensional assessments. In 2020, in the context of the Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond process, small island developing States reiterated the need for policy tools to improve their access to the financing necessary to address a growing liquidity and debt crisis. In December 2020, the General Assembly adopted resolution [75/215](#), in which it called upon the Secretary-General to provide recommendations on the development of a multidimensional vulnerability index for small island developing States, including on its potential finalization and use.

Lessons learned and planned change

- 10.93 The lesson for the subprogramme was that fragmented initiatives to address extreme shocks such as those caused by the COVID-19 pandemic can preclude the delivery of focused and workable solutions for small island developing States in regard to gaining access to financing, largely owing to their middle- and high-income status. Targeted, more flexible measures that take full account of the unique and evolving circumstances of small island developing States are needed to help them to better respond to the multiple crises that they face. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will, starting in 2021, coordinate the work of the United Nations on responding to the mandate to provide concrete recommendations on the development of a multidimensional vulnerability index. Such an index could potentially inform the modalities for the delivery of targeted development finance, technical assistance and other international support measures to small island developing States, with

a view to enabling them to better withstand extreme shocks, such as pandemics, and build sustainable economic, social and environmental resilience. Continuing in 2022, the subprogramme will advocate for more widespread adoption and use of improved measures in favour of small island developing States in relevant forums, thereby allowing for quantifiable benefits for small island developing States.

Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

- 10.94 This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by strengthened international support measures to enable small island developing States to better withstand extreme shocks and build sustainable economic, social and environmental resilience (see table 10.14).

Table 10.14

Performance measure

2018 (actual)	2019 (actual)	2020 (actual)	2021 (planned) ^a	2022 (planned)
—	In the political declaration of the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway, the need to devise methodologies to better account for the complex and diverse realities of small island developing States was recognized	The General Assembly adopted resolution 75/215 , in which it called upon the Secretary-General to provide recommendations on the development of a multidimensional vulnerability index for small island developing States, including on its potential finalization and use	The General Assembly considers the recommendations on a multidimensional vulnerability index to be provided by the Secretary-General in his report on the implementation of resolution 75/215	Strengthened international support measures to enable small island developing States to better withstand extreme shocks and build sustainable economic, social and environmental resilience

Legislative mandates

- 10.95 The list below provides all mandates entrusted to the subprogramme.

General Assembly resolutions

59/311	International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	73/228 ; 74/217 ; 75/215	Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States
69/15	SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway		
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system	74/3	Political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway
72/307	Modalities for the high-level review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway		

Deliverables

10.96 Table 10.15 lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, for the period 2020–2022 that contributed and are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 10.15

Subprogramme 3: deliverables for the period 2020–2022, by category and subcategory

Category and subcategory	2020 planned	2020 actual	2021 planned	2022 planned
A. Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies				
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)	6	11	9	9
1. Meetings and consultations of the Second Committee of the General Assembly	2	6	3	3
2. Meetings and consultations of the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Economic and Social Council	2	4	2	2
3. Meetings of the group of small island developing States	1	1	2	2
4. Expert group meeting on mainstreaming the Samoa Pathway and issues relating to small island developing States in the work of the United Nations system and enhancing the coherence of issues relating to small island developing States in United Nations processes	1	–	2	2
B. Generation and transfer of knowledge				
Field and technical cooperation projects (number of projects)	–	–	1	1
5. Project on strengthening the capacity of small island developing States to attract climate finance from the private sector	–	–	1	1
Seminars, workshops and training events (number of days)	9	9	14	15
6. Seminar on the support from development partners to small island developing States for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway	2	1	2	2
7. Seminar or event in support of the Alliance of Small Island States related to the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	1	–	2	2
8. Seminar with the small island developing States national focal points on the coordination of efforts to achieve and monitor the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda	1	3	4	4
9. Seminar on how the United Nations system and other international intergovernmental institutions, including regional intergovernmental organizations of which the small island developing States are members, can strengthen collaboration through joint efforts and activities	2	–	3	3
10. Seminar on private sector involvement in supporting implementation of the Samoa Pathway	1	3	1	2
11. Seminar on the access of small island developing States to climate change-related finance for development objectives	2	2	2	2
Publications (number of publications)	–	4	–	1
12. Report on development finance in small island developing States	–	1	–	–
13. Report of the expert group meeting on mainstreaming the Samoa Pathway and issues relating to small island developing States in the work of the United Nations system and enhancing the coherence of issues relating to small island developing States in United Nations processes	–	3	–	1

Section 10 Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States

<i>Category and subcategory</i>	<i>2020 planned</i>	<i>2020 actual</i>	<i>2021 planned</i>	<i>2022 planned</i>
Technical materials (number of materials)	5	1	10	14
14. Information on implementing the Samoa Pathway, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States	2	–	2	2
15. International support provided to small island developing States for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Samoa Pathway (print and electronic)	1	1	2	2
16. Assessment studies invited by the General Assembly and subsidiary bodies on matters relating to the financing, implementation and monitoring of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda in small island developing States (electronic)	–	–	2	2
17. Thematic think pieces and background notes on issues relevant to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in small island developing States (electronic)	1	–	2	6
18. Report on the expert group meeting on mainstreaming the Samoa Pathway and issues relating to small island developing States in the work of the United Nations system and enhancing the coherence of issues relating to small island developing States in United Nations processes	1	–	2	2
C. Substantive deliverables				
Consultation, advice and advocacy: substantive events to provide support to 38 small island developing States and 3 regional and 5 global entities; briefings to 38 Member States on the work of the Office; advocacy in appropriate forums for the special case of small island developing States in achieving sustainable development.				
D. Communication deliverables				
Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: campaigns on matters relating to small island developing States and sustainable development, including dissemination of materials for advocacy for the special case of small island developing States in achieving sustainable development.				
External and media relations: press releases and press appearances on issues relating to small island developing States, as well as ongoing engagement with journalists in small island developing States on relevant United Nations processes and activities.				
Digital platforms and multimedia content: updating and maintenance of online information on issues relating to small island developing States and maintenance of the subprogramme's web pages, including, specifically, support for the preparatory processes for the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States.				

B. Proposed post and non-post resource requirements for 2022

Overview

10.97 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022, including the breakdown of resource changes, as applicable, are reflected in tables 10.16 to 10.18.

Table 10.16

Overall: evolution of financial resources by object of expenditure

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Object of expenditure	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes					2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Posts	5 295.7	5 608.6	285.1	—	160.5	445.6	7.9	6 054.2
Other staff costs	111.9	317.5	—	—	—	—	—	317.5
Hospitality	—	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	0.5
Consultants	59.0	50.0	—	—	—	—	—	50.0
Experts	—	241.2	—	—	53.8	53.8	22.3	295.0
Travel of staff	7.8	188.2	—	—	19.8	19.8	10.5	208.0
Contractual services	78.6	140.3	—	—	22.1	22.1	15.8	162.4
General operating expenses	31.6	36.9	—	—	0.7	0.7	1.9	37.6
Supplies and materials	0.4	7.0	—	—	—	—	—	7.0
Furniture and equipment	33.7	19.1	(1.5)	—	2.6	1.1	5.8	20.2
Other	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	5 619.2	6 609.3	283.6	—	259.5	543.1	8.2	7 152.4

Table 10.17

Overall: proposed posts and post changes for 2022^a

(Number of posts)

	Number	Details
Approved for 2021	31	1 USG, 1 D-2, 1 D-1, 8 P-5, 8 P-4, 5 P-3, 1 P-2/1, 6 GS (OL)
Establishment	2	1 P-2/1 under subprogramme 1 and 1 P-3 under subprogramme 3
Proposed for 2022	33	1 USG, 1 D-2, 1 D-1, 8 P-5, 8 P-4, 6 P-3, 2 P-2/1, 6 GS (OL)

^a More information on post changes is reflected in annex III.

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and figures: GS (OL), General Service (Other level); USG, Under-Secretary-General.

Table 10.18
Overall: proposed posts by category and grade
 (Number of posts)

Category and grade	2021 approved	Changes				2022 proposed
		Technical adjustments	New/expanded mandates	Other	Total	
Professional and higher						
USG	1	—	—	—	—	1
D-2	1	—	—	—	—	1
D-1	1	—	—	—	—	1
P-5	8	—	—	—	—	8
P-4	8	—	—	—	—	8
P-3	5	—	—	1	1	6
P-2/1	1	—	—	1	1	2
Subtotal	25	—	—	2	2	27
General Service and related						
GS (OL)	6	—	—	—	—	6
Subtotal	6	—	—	—	—	6
Total	31	—	—	2	2	33

10.98 Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in tables 10.19 to 10.21 and figure 10.II.

10.99 As reflected in tables 10.19 (1) and 10.20, the overall resources proposed for 2022 amount to \$7,152,400 before recosting, reflecting a net increase of \$543,100 (or 8.2 per cent) compared with the appropriation for 2021. Resource changes result from two factors, namely: (a) technical adjustments; and (b) other changes. The proposed level of resources provides for the full, efficient and effective implementation of mandates.

Table 10.19
Overall: evolution of financial resources by source of funding, component and subprogramme
 (Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component/subprogramme	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes				2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total Percentage	
A. Executive direction and management	1 328.1	1 423.2	(1.5)	—	6.4	4.9 0.4	1 428.1
B. Programme of work							
1. Least developed countries	3 244.5	3 514.4	—	—	163.8	163.8 4.7	3 678.2
2. Landlocked developing countries	583.7	943.6	174.2	—	—	174.2 18.5	1 117.8
3. Small island developing States	463.0	728.1	110.9	—	89.3	200.2 27.5	928.3
Subtotal, B	4 291.2	5 186.1	285.1	—	253.1	538.2 10.4	5 724.3
Subtotal, 1	5 619.2	6 609.3	283.6	—	259.5	543.1 8.2	7 152.4

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>2020 expenditure</i>	<i>2021 estimate</i>	<i>Change</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>2022 estimate</i>
A. Executive direction and management	–	–	–	–	–
B. Programme of work					
1. Least developed countries	244.5	1 669.5	(1 077.0)	(64.5)	592.5
2. Landlocked developing countries	(21.9)	820.3	(645.3)	(78.7)	175.0
3. Small island developing States	(13.7)	304.0	(151.2)	(49.7)	152.8
Subtotal, B	208.9	2 793.8	(1 873.5)	(67.1)	920.3
Subtotal, 2	208.9	2 793.8	(1 873.5)	(67.1)	920.3
Total	5 828.1	9 403.1	(1 330.4)	(14.1)	8 072.7

Table 10.20

Overall: proposed posts for 2022 by source of funding, component and subprogramme

(Number of posts)

Regular budget

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>Changes</i>					<i>2022 proposed</i>
	<i>2021 approved</i>	<i>Technical adjustments</i>	<i>New/expanded mandates</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Total</i>	
A. Executive direction and management	6	–	–	–	–	6
B. Programme of work						
1. Least developed countries	17	–	–	1	1	18
2. Landlocked developing countries	5	–	–	–	–	5
3. Small island developing States	3	–	–	1	1	4
Subtotal, B	25	–	–	2	2	27
Subtotal, 1	31	–	–	2	2	33

Table 10.21

Overall: evolution of financial and post resources

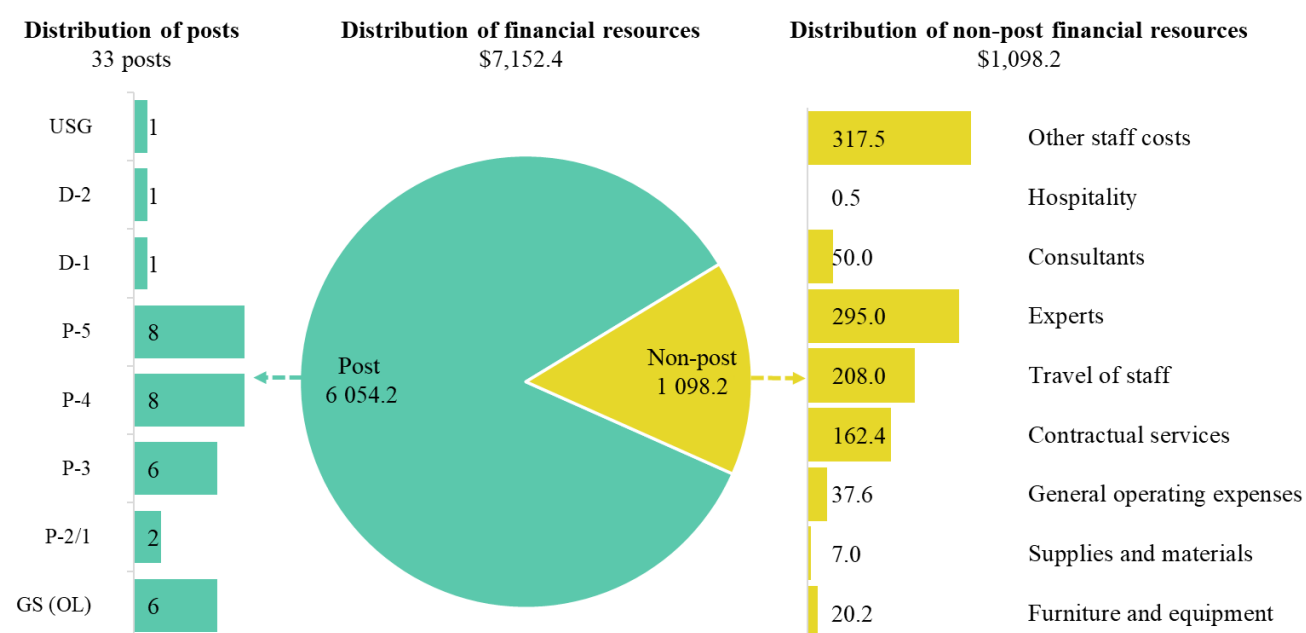
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	5 295.7	5 608.6	285.1	–	160.5	445.6	7.9	6 054.2
Non-post	323.5	1 000.7	(1.5)	–	99.0	97.5	9.8	1 098.2
Total	5 619.2	6 609.3	283.6	–	259.5	543.1	8.2	7 152.4

	Changes						2022 estimate (before recosting)	
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total		Percentage
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		25	—	—	2	2	8.0	27
General Service and related		6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Total		31	—	—	2	2	6.5	33

Figure 10.II
Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Explanation of variances by factor, component and subprogramme

Overall resource changes

Technical adjustments

10.100 As reflected in table 10.19 (1), resource changes reflect a net increase of \$283,600, as follows:

- Executive direction and management.** The decrease of \$1,500 reflects the removal of a non-recurrent provision for furniture and equipment in 2021 related to new posts established by the General Assembly in its resolution [75/252](#);
- Subprogramme 2, Landlocked developing countries.** The increase of \$174,200 reflects the annual provision for two new posts of Economic Affairs Officer (1 P-4 and 1 P-3) established in 2021 pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/252](#), which were subject to a 50 per cent vacancy rate in accordance with the established practice for new posts;
- Subprogramme 3, Small island developing States.** The increase of \$110,900 reflects the annual provision for one new post of Senior Programme Management Officer (P-5) established

in 2021 pursuant to General Assembly resolution [75/252](#), which was subject to a 50 per cent vacancy rate in accordance with the established practice for new posts.

Other changes

10.101 As reflected in table 10.19 (1), resource changes reflect a net increase of \$259,500, as follows:

- (a) **Executive direction and management.** The increase of \$6,400 relates to additional non-post resource requirements under contractual services (\$3,100) for the information technology service-level agreement, general operating expenses (\$700) and information technology equipment (\$2,600) related to two new posts proposed under subprogrammes 1 and 3;
- (b) **Subprogramme 1, Least developed countries.** The increase of \$163,800 reflects:
 - (i) An additional requirement under posts (\$71,200), relating to the proposed establishment of one post of Associate Data Analyst (P-2/1). Harnessing machine learning techniques and statistical methods, among other things, the incumbent would provide data-driven analyses and insights, which would inform advocacy and communication activities and would feed into the Office's analytical work. The incumbent would therefore contribute to providing Member States with more timely and relevant data and information on advocacy efforts and intergovernmental deliberations;
 - (ii) Additional requirements of \$92,600 under non-post resources for experts for the organization of the meeting of national focal points of least developed countries on the follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and on the mainstreaming of the new programme of action for the least developed countries into national sustainable development plans (\$53,800), travel of staff (\$19,900) to attend, contribute to and service the meeting of the national focal points of least developed countries, and contractual services (\$18,900) for an individual contractor to provide technical support, including in the areas of graphic design and social media;
- (c) **Subprogramme 3, Small island developing States.** The increase of \$89,300 under posts relates to the proposed establishment of one post of Programme Management Officer (P-3). The incumbent would provide substantive support to the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States, the global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue and the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network processes, and organize and support the work of the small island developing States national focal points network. These work streams would contribute to forging new multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States and to mainstreaming the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda into the national sustainable development plans of those States.

Extrabudgetary resources

- 10.102 As reflected in table 10.19 (2), the Office of the High Representative expects to continue to receive cash contributions, which would complement regular budget resources. In 2022, extrabudgetary resources are estimated at \$920,300 and would be used mainly to carry out activities related to follow-up of the outcomes of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and of the midterm reviews of the Vienna Programme of Action and of the Samoa Pathway. Extrabudgetary resources represent 11.4 per cent of the total resources for this section. The expected decrease of \$1,873,500 compared with the estimate for 2021 is due primarily to the completion of the preparations for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.
- 10.103 The extrabudgetary resources under this section are subject to the oversight of the Office of the High Representative, which has delegated authority from the Secretary-General.

Executive direction and management

- 10.104 The Under-Secretary-General and High Representative is responsible for the overall leadership and direction of the Office in the implementation of its mandates and approved programme of work. She engages in high-level consultations with Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, multilateral and regional financial institutions, the private sector, and civil society groups and academia, and supports the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in their reviews and assessments of progress achieved in the implementation of the programmes of action for the three groups of countries and the 2030 Agenda, as it relates to these countries.
- 10.105 The Office of the High Representative advises the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative on issues of policy and management; acts as a focal point for information on all aspects of the work of the Office and ensures that such information is disseminated internally and projected externally, as appropriate; and consults, negotiates and coordinates with other departments, offices, funds and programmes, as well as with non-United Nations entities, on matters of common concern. The Office is headed by a Director (D-2), who is responsible for the overall coordination and strategic management of the Office and who acts as a deputy to the High Representative.
- 10.106 In accordance with the 2030 Agenda, in particular target 12.6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, 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 has started the implementation of its guide entitled “Things to Know, Things to Do – Reducing Environmental Impacts in the Workplace”, which is the Office’s strategic document on environmental sustainability. The guide provides details of daily environmentally sound steps to reduce waste and greenhouse gas emissions and move toward achieving the targets of the United Nations Secretariat climate action plan 2020–2030. These steps include promoting the use of reusable bags and water and coffee bottles, commuting by bicycle when possible, and using hand driers instead of paper towels. A survey was administered to assess existing practices among staff members in the Office and establish baselines against which progress is being measured.
- 10.107 Information on compliance with the timely submission of documentation and advance booking for air travel is reflected in table 10.22. The rate of compliance with the policy on the advance purchase of air tickets improved markedly in 2020. This improvement occurred, however, during the first two months of 2020, when all travel took place, and despite growing uncertainties pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic and delays in putting together the documentation required for travel approval.
- 10.108 Going forward, the Office commits to continuing to achieve a good level of compliance with the policy on the advance booking of air travel. It will continue to raise awareness among staff and managers of the need to comply with the policy, including through early planning of participation in meetings. With real-time information on travel compliance available thanks to the advancement of the management dashboards, the senior management has instituted regular monitoring of progress and is therefore in a better position to take the corrective measures necessary to improve compliance. With regard to partners, the Office will engage with both organizers of meetings to which the Office is invited and participants in meetings organized by the Office with a view to improving the timeliness of their submission of documentation. The Office will also continue to work closely with the Executive Office to streamline the requirements for the issuance of travel authorizations, within the existing rules and regulations guiding official travel.

Table 10.22
Compliance rate
(Percentage)

	<i>Actual 2019</i>	<i>Actual 2020</i>	<i>Planned 2021</i>	<i>Planned 2022</i>
Timely submission of documentation	100	100	100	100
Air tickets purchased at least 2 weeks before the commencement of travel	43	84	75	80

10.109 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$1,428,100 and reflect a net increase of \$4,900 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed increase is explained in paragraphs 10.99 (a) and 10.100 (a) above. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 10.23 and figure 10.III.

Table 10.23

Executive direction and management: evolution of financial and post resources

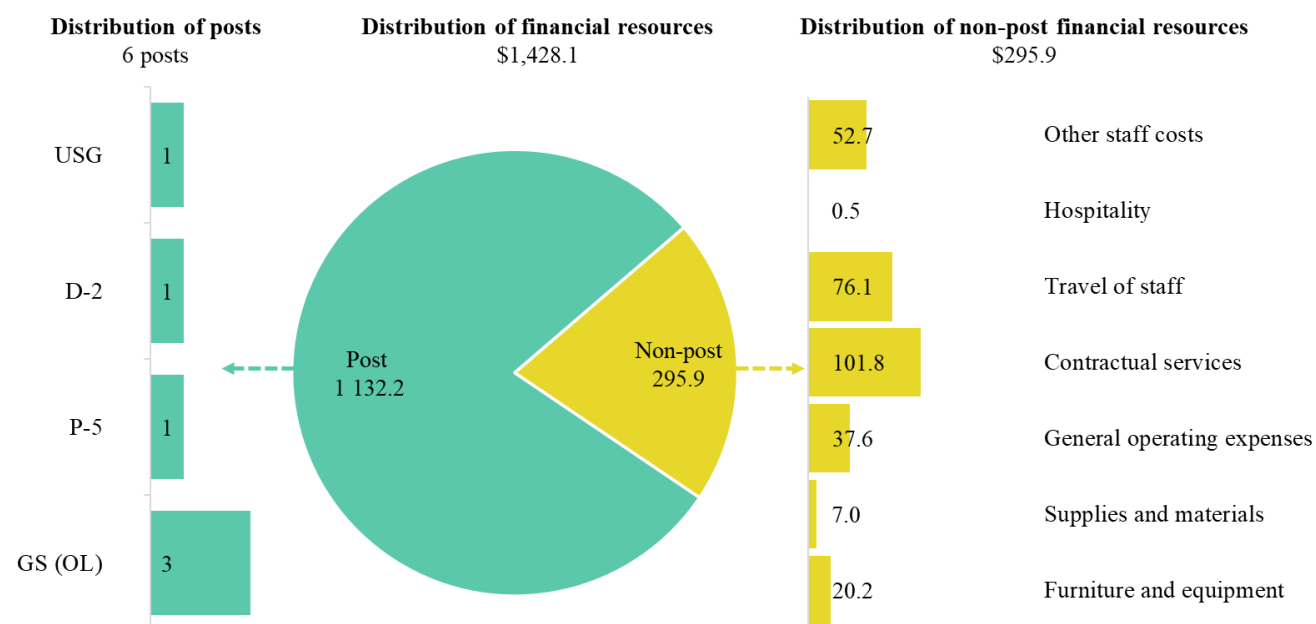
(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	1 194.1	1 132.2	—	—	—	—	—	1 132.2
Non-post	134.0	291.0	(1.5)	—	6.4	4.9	1.6	295.9
Total	1 328.1	1 423.2	(1.5)	—	6.4	4.9	0.3	1 428.1
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
General Service and related		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total		6	—	—	—	—	—	6

Figure 10.III

Executive direction and management: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



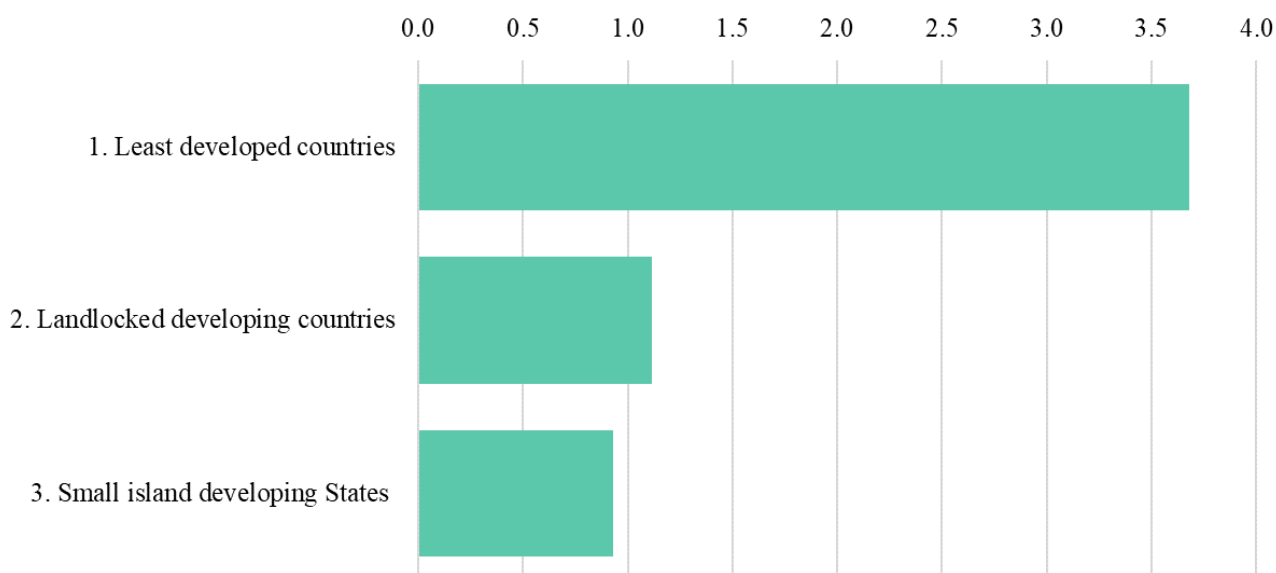
Programme of work

- 10.110 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$5,724,300 and reflect a net increase of \$538,200 compared with the appropriation for 2021. The proposed increase is explained in paragraphs 10.99 (b) and (c) and 10.100 (b) and (c) above. The distribution of resources by subprogramme is reflected in figure 10.IV.

Figure 10.IV

Distribution of proposed resources for 2022 by subprogramme

(Millions of United States dollars)



Subprogramme 1 Least developed countries

- 10.111 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$3,678,200 and reflect a net increase of \$163,800 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 10.24 and figure 10.V.

Table 10.24

Subprogramme 1: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

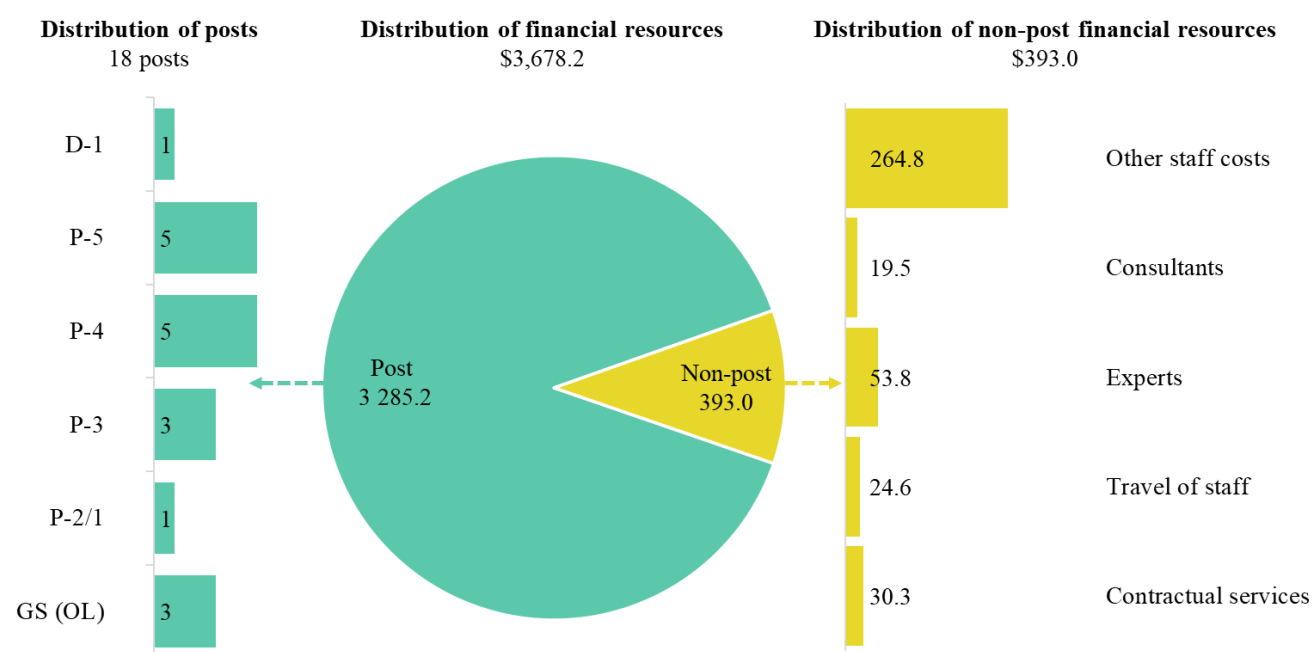
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Changes					2022 estimate (before recosting)
			Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	3,079.6	3 214.0	—	—	71.2	71.2	2.2	3 285.2
Non-post	164.9	300.4	—	—	92.6	92.6	30.8	393.0
Total	3 244.5	3 514.4	—	—	163.8	163.8	4.7	3 678.2

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		14	—	—	1	1	7.1	15
General Service and related		3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total		17	—	—	1	1	5.9	18

Figure 10.V

Subprogramme 1: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Extrabudgetary resources

- 10.112 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$592,500 and would provide for non-post resources. The resources would enable representatives of least developed countries to attend meetings pertaining to the implementation and follow-up of the outcome of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries. The expected decrease of \$1,077,000 is due mainly to the completion of the preparations for the Conference.

Subprogramme 2 Landlocked developing countries

- 10.113 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$1,117,800 and reflect an increase of \$174,200 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 10.25 and figure 10.VI.

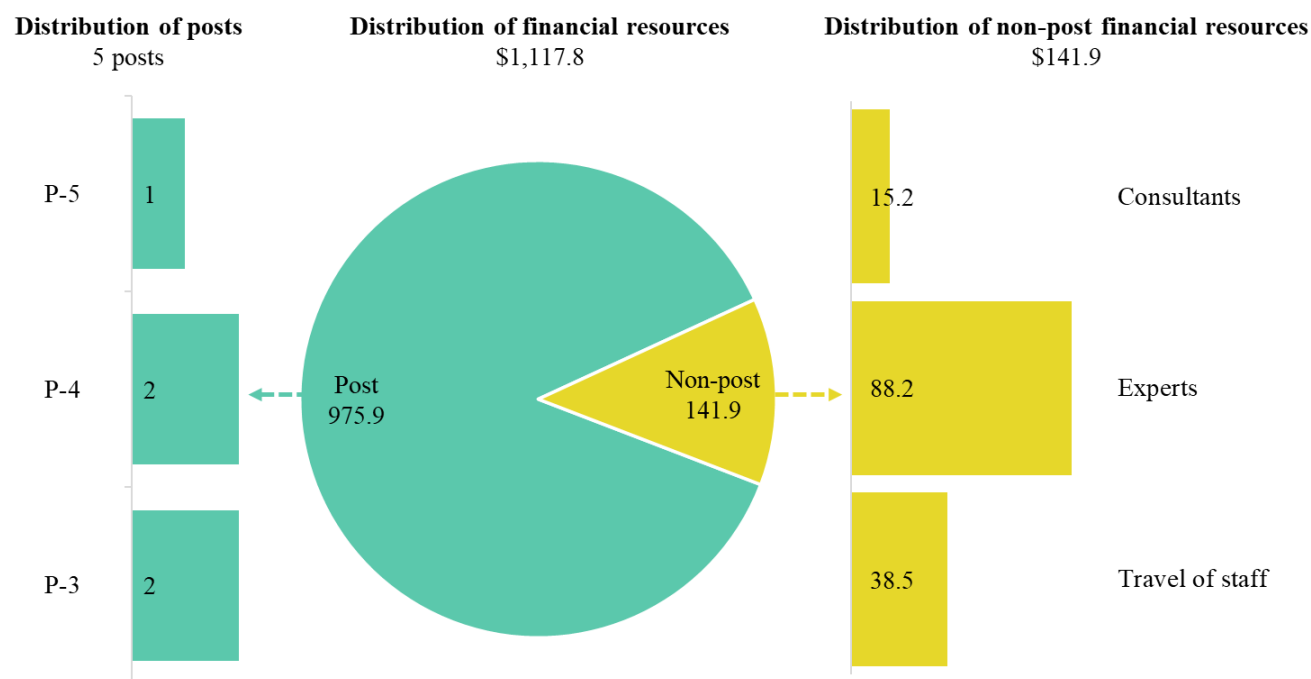
Table 10.25
Subprogramme 2: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	565.5	801.7	174.2	—	—	174.2	21.7	975.9
Non-post	18.2	141.9	—	—	—	—	—	141.9
Total	583.7	943.6	174.2	—	—	174.2	18.5	1 117.8
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Total		5	—	—	—	—	—	5

Figure 10.VI
Subprogramme 2: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)



Extrabudgetary resources

- 10.114 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$175,000 and would provide for non-post resources. The resources would enable representatives of landlocked developing countries to take part in activities pertaining to the implementation of the outcome of the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action. The expected decrease of \$645,300 is due mainly to the completion of the project on strengthening the capacity of landlocked developing countries to design and implement policies that promote transport connectivity for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Activities carried out under the project encompass knowledge generation,

training sessions for policymakers and the provision of technical assistance to two countries to help them to develop bankable projects.

Subprogramme 3 Small island developing States

10.115 The proposed regular budget resources for 2022 amount to \$928,300 and reflect a net increase of \$200,200 compared with the appropriation for 2021. Additional details on the distribution of the proposed resources for 2022 are reflected in table 10.26 and figure 10.VII.

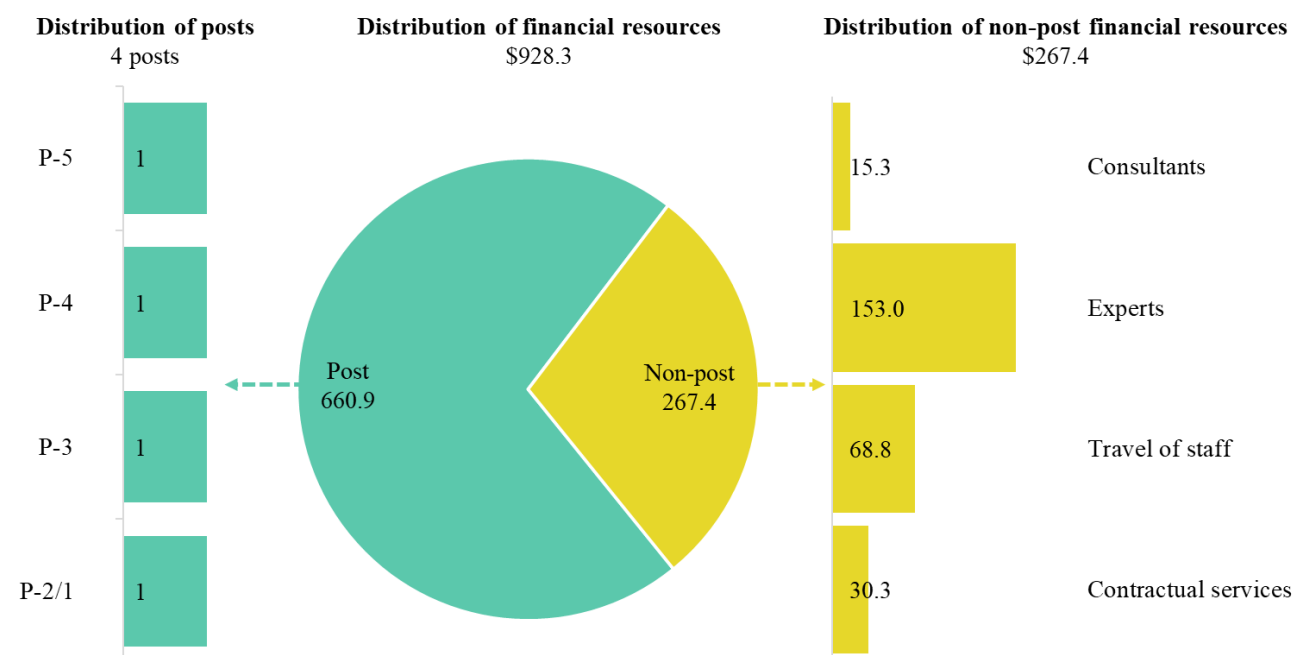
Table 10.26
Subprogramme 3: evolution of financial and post resources

(Thousands of United States dollars/number of posts)

	Changes							2022 estimate (before recosting)
	2020 expenditure	2021 appropriation	Technical adjustments	New/ expanded mandates	Other	Total	Percentage	
Financial resources by main category of expenditure								
Post	456.6	460.7	110.9	—	89.3	200.2	43.5	660.9
Non-post	6.4	267.4	—	—	—	—	—	267.4
Total	463.0	728.1	110.9	—	89.3	200.2	27.5	928.3
Post resources by category								
Professional and higher		3	—	—	1	1	33.3	4
Total		3	—	—	1	1	33.3	4

Figure 10.VII
Subprogramme 3: distribution of proposed resources for 2022 (before recosting)

(Number of posts/thousands of United States dollars)

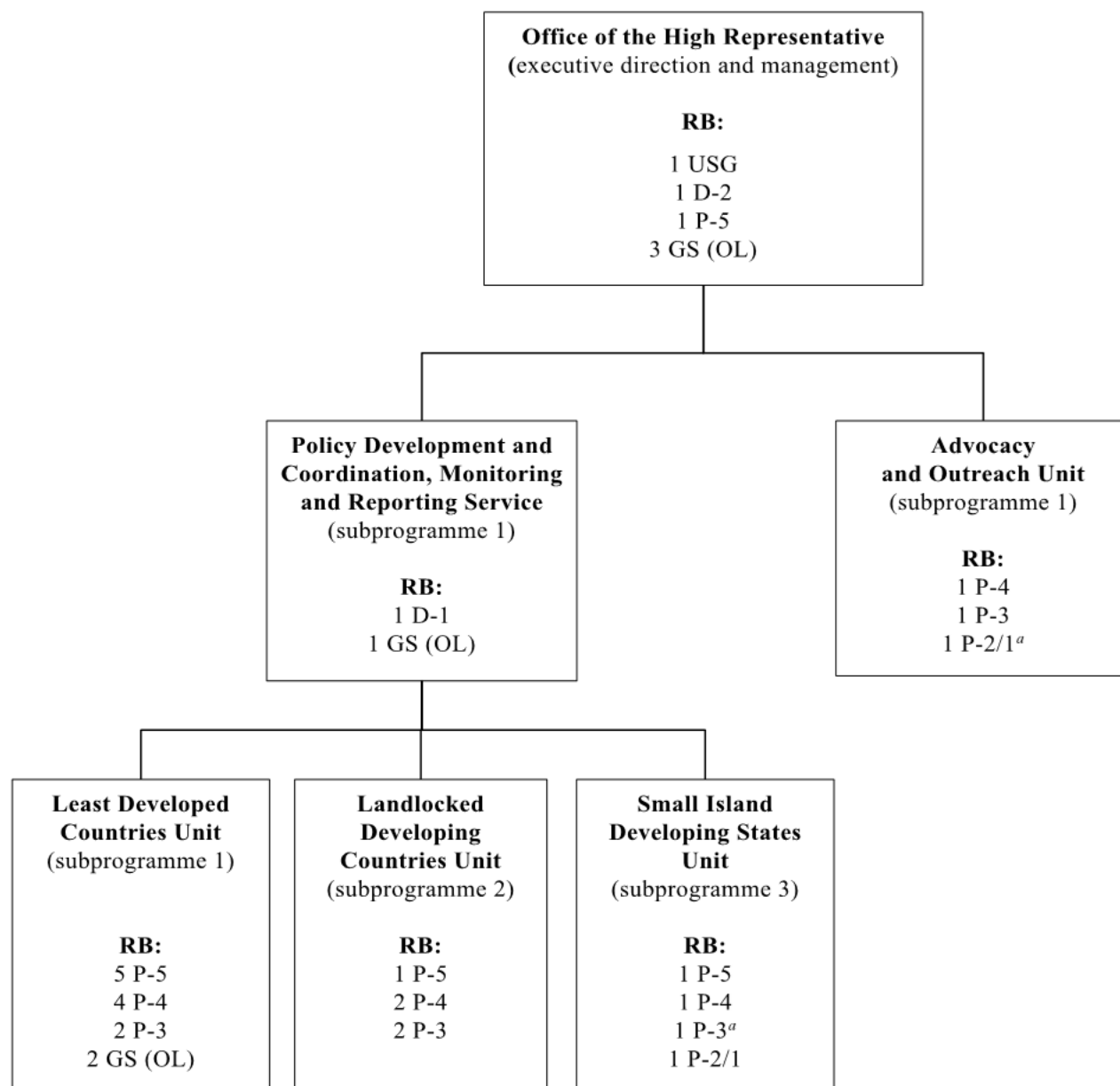


Extrabudgetary resources

- 10.116 Extrabudgetary resources for the subprogramme are estimated at \$152,800 and would provide for non-post resources. The resources would enable representatives of small island developing States to take part in activities pertaining to the implementation of the outcome of the midterm review of the Samoa Pathway. The expected decrease of \$151,200 is due mainly to the completion of the “Island Voices” campaign for small island developing States.

Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for 2022



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

^a Establishment.

Annex II

Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies

Brief description of the recommendation

Action taken to implement the recommendation

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[A/75/7](#) and [A/75/7/Corr.1](#)

The Advisory Committee recalls that, in paragraph 48 of its resolution [74/262](#), the General Assembly regretted the inadequate resources allocated to subprogramme 2, Landlocked developing countries, and subprogramme 3, Small island developing States, and requested the Secretary-General to take the action necessary to ensure that additional post and non-post resources were allocated to those subprogrammes in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2021 to enable them to effectively carry out their increased mandates. The Committee questioned whether the proposed increase in resources for 2021 reflected the full implementation of resolution [74/262](#). It was informed that the necessary key steps had been taken to fully implement the resolution and that the resource requirements would be further assessed by the Secretary-General in the context of the proposed programme budget for 2022.

Concerning subprogramme 2, the Committee was informed that the Joint Inspection Unit had initiated a review of United Nations system support to the landlocked developing countries in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024 and that the review would provide, among other things, a needs assessment of subprogramme 2. **The Advisory Committee looks forward to the outcome of the review currently being undertaken by the Joint Inspection Unit, including in the context of the next budget submission by the Secretary-General** (para. IV.21).

Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that, as representative of the Secretary-General on the Governing Council of the Technology Bank, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States provided substantive and operational advice to the Council, which was the governing body of the Technology Bank. The High Representative also provided strategic advice to the Managing Director of the Technology Bank on the programmatic activities of the Bank, with the objective of strengthening the science, technology and innovation capacity of least developed countries. This

In February 2020, the Joint Inspection Unit initiated a review of United Nations system support to the landlocked developing countries in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024. The review involved the collection of data, including secondary data, through questionnaires, surveys and interviews. Data collection was completed at the end of 2020. A draft report is expected to be shared with stakeholders for comment in the later part of April 2021. The report is expected to be finalized and issued by the end of 2021. In the meantime, the General Assembly, in its resolution [75/252](#), allocated additional post and non-post resources to subprogrammes 2 and 3 in the proposed programme budget for 2021.

Having supported the efforts of Member States to establish the Technology Bank, the Office, through the High Representative, represents the Secretary-General on the Governing Council of the Bank. The Office also provides substantive and operational advice, including guidance on its multi-year strategic plan, the annual work programme, operational principles, policies and guidelines, and the budget. Furthermore, the Office provides guidance and support on intergovernmental matters related to the Bank's engagement with the General Assembly, least developed countries, the Group of Friends of Least Developed Countries, and development partners. In

Brief description of the recommendation

contributes to the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 and 2030 Agenda. **The Advisory Committee trusts that updated information on cooperation between the Office of the High Representative and the Technology Bank, as well as with other relevant entities, including the United Nations development system, will be provided in the context of the next budget submission** (para. IV.31).

Action taken to implement the recommendation

addition, the Technology Bank is a member of the Inter-agency Consultative Group for Least Developed Countries and contributes to the implementation of the programme of action for the least developed countries and the 2030 Agenda, as well as the preparations for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, on science, technology and innovation issues.

Annex III

Summary of proposed post changes, by component and subprogramme

<i>Component/subprogramme</i>	<i>Posts</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Reason for change</i>
Subprogramme 1 Least developed countries	1	P-2/1	Establishment of 1 post of Associate Data Analyst	The incumbent would provide data-driven analyses and insights, which would inform advocacy and communication activities and would feed into the Office's analytical work. The incumbent would therefore contribute to providing Member States with more timely and relevant data and information on advocacy efforts and intergovernmental deliberations.
Subprogramme 3 Small island developing States	1	P-3	Establishment of 1 post of Programme Management Officer	The incumbent would provide substantive support to the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States, the global multi-stakeholder small island developing States partnership dialogue and the Small Island Developing States Global Business Network processes, and organize and support the work of the small island developing States national focal points network. These work streams would contribute to forging new multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States and to mainstreaming the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda into their national sustainable development plans.