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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNium 1980-1981

Revised estimates resulting from decisions of the Economic and  
Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of  
1980: Part II

Seventeenth report of the Advisory Committee on  
Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/35/23/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1) in which he submits revised estimates resulting from Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/56 of 24 July 1980, adopted at its second regular session of 1980, concerning the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee (CDCC) <sup>1/</sup> of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA). The additional appropriation requested by the Secretary-General, \$128,100, under section 12 of the programme budget for 1980-1981, is for the implementation of the priority projects and for the strengthening of the secretariat of CDCC pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 of Council resolution 1980/56. In paragraph 5 of the resolution the Council

Requests the Secretary-General to make appropriate provision for the implementation of the priority projects and for the strengthening of the secretariat of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee in his supplementary budget estimates for 1981 within the over-all United Nations budget, for consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly in the course of the thirty-fifth session of the Assembly, bearing in mind the view of the Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee that the implementation of

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<sup>1/</sup> The Caribbean Development and Co-operation Committee was created in 1975 by the Economic Commission for Latin America to act as a co-ordinating body for activities relating to development and co-operation and as a consultative organ of the Commission. The CDCC is supported by the ECLA subregional office in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

such projects constitutes an urgent need which could not have been foreseen at the time of the adoption of the programme budget for 1980-1981."

2. The priority areas in the work programme of CDCC include development planning, industrial development, natural resources and energy, statistics, transport and communications, social development and programme support. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraphs 5 and 8 of the Secretary-General's report that the Executive Secretary of the Commission has reviewed the CDCC proposals in the light of the over-all work programme of ECLA and the budgetary resources available to him under the regular budget and from extrabudgetary sources. As a result of that review the Executive Secretary has decided to redeploy as from 1 October 1980 three posts (one P-2 and two GS) from the Administration Division in Santiago to the Port of Spain Office (the P-2 post to the Programme Section and the two GS posts to the Administration Section).

3. The additional resources requested for 1981 may be broken down as follows (see table 1 following para. 30 of the Secretary-General's report):

	\$
Salaries and common staff costs	53,600
Meetings of <u>ad hoc</u> expert groups	28,500
Consultant services	3,000
Temporary assistance for meetings	14,000
Travel	12,000
Furniture and equipment	17,000
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Total	128,100
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4. The estimate of \$53,600 for salaries and common staff costs relates to the proposed addition of five posts (one P-2 and four Local Level) to the staff of the Port of Spain Office, as follows:

- One P-2 post in support of transport and communications activities (para. 17);
- One Local Level post for secretarial support in the area of natural resources and energy (para. 12);
- One Local Level post for a statistical assistant (para. 15);
- One Local Level post for an assistant to the co-ordinator of the work on integration of women in development (para. 22);
- One Local Level post for programme support (para. 26).

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5. The estimate of \$28,500 for meetings of ad hoc expert groups covers the cost of travel and subsistence of the participants. The expert groups will deal with topics related to development planning (para. 9), industrial development (paras. 10-11), transport and communications (para. 18) and social development (paras. 19 and 23).

6. As indicated in paragraph 16 of document A/C.5/35/23/Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1, a provision of \$3,000 is requested for a consultant to help develop the use of computer technology in statistics.

7. The estimate of \$14,000 for temporary assistance for meetings relates to the cost of interpretation services at a meeting on development planning to be convened in 1981, as recommended by CDCC (para. 27).

8. In paragraph 24, the Secretary-General discusses the need to increase travel funds allotted to the subregional activities by \$12,000.

9. Under programme support, the Secretary-General requests a total of \$17,000 for furniture, office equipment and an offset printing machine (para. 28).

10. The Advisory Committee understands that Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/56 related to a report of the CDCC which had not been considered at that time by the Economic Commission for Latin America. The Committee points out that it is difficult to set priorities and achieve over-all co-ordination when a subsidiary organ bypasses the parent body (in this case ECLA). Subject to this observation, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the additional appropriation of \$128,100 requested under section 12 of the programme budget for 1980-1981. As indicated in paragraph 31 of the Secretary-General's report, an appropriation of \$9,600 would also be required under section 31 (staff assessment), to be offset by an increase in the same amount under section 1 (income from staff assessment).