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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1984-1985

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI
PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE POPULATION
OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

Administrative and financial implications of the draft
resolution contained in document A/SPC/38/L.38

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

1. At its 45th meeting, on 5 December 1983, the Special Political Committee adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/38/L.38. A statement of the administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution was before the Committee in document A/SPC/38/L.43.
2. By operative paragraph 14 of the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/38/L.38, the Special Committee would be requested "pending the early termination of Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross in order to ensure the safeguarding of the welfare and human rights of the population of the occupied territories and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter".
3. By operative paragraph 15, the Special Committee would also be requested "to continue to investigate the treatment of civilians in detention in the Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967".
4. By operative paragraph 17, the Secretary-General would be requested:

(a) To provide all necessary facilities to the Special Committee, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, with a view to investigating the Israeli policies and practices referred to in the resolution;

(b) To continue to make available additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(c) To ensure the widest circulation of reports of the Special Committee, and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(d) To report to the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present paragraph.

5. For the purpose of arriving at an estimate of expenditures of the Special Committee in undertaking the above-mentioned tasks in 1984, the following assumptions have been made on the basis of indications given by the Special Committee that its activities in 1984 would continue to follow the pattern of the programme of work undertaken by the Committee each year since 1970:

(a) The Special Committee would meet in Geneva in January 1984 for a period of approximately five working days, to continue its study and analysis of the evidence and of documentary and other material that it has received. At that meeting, the Special Committee would review developments in the occupied territories, receive further allegations and evidence of violations of human rights, if any, and initiate studies of relevant new developments which may have taken place;

(b) In May/June 1984, the Special Committee would meet in Geneva for a period of approximately 10 working days to continue its study and analysis of further evidence, receive additional allegations and evidence of violations of human rights, if any, and begin the preparation of its draft report;

(c) In September 1984, the Special Committee would meet in Geneva for a period of approximately 10 working days to continue its study and analysis of further evidence and to adopt its report;

(d) Interpretation services would be required from and into English and French for the meetings held in Geneva; documents prepared for the Special Committee's use will be drafted in English and translated into French. Should Arabic-speaking witnesses be heard, interpretation from Arabic would also be required;

(e) In November/December 1984, the Special Committee would meet in New York for a period of five working days to examine additional information received and to adopt a supplement to its main report. The attention of the Special Political Committee is drawn to the fact that under the terms of General Assembly decision 34/401, paragraph 34, no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly should be permitted to meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized to do so by the Assembly. Consequently, the

proposed meeting in New York in November/December 1984 cannot take place unless specifically authorized by the General Assembly;

(f) The Special Committee would require up-to-date information on current developments in the Middle East region and, for this purpose, newspapers issued in the region would have to be reviewed on a day-to-day basis for information relevant to the work of the Special Committee. Translation from Arabic and Hebrew into English and French of pertinent articles appearing in Arabic and Hebrew publications would be required and, in addition, the Special Committee would hear testimony of witnesses;

(g) The Special Committee would undertake a field mission to Europe and the Middle East. Prior to proceeding on the mission it is anticipated that the Special Committee would review developments in the occupied territories and decide whether it considers such a mission necessary. Should the Special Committee so decide, the mission would probably take place during the late spring or early summer of 1984, for a period of not more than 21 days. Alternatively, the Special Committee may invite witnesses to travel to Geneva to provide the Committee with information relevant to its mandate;

(h) During the field mission, the Special Committee would hear testimony and receive written statements from witnesses. It would be necessary for the Committee to insert paid notices in newspapers for the purpose of informing potential witnesses of its hearings and some witnesses might require financial assistance to make the journey to the place of meeting of the Committee in order to testify;

(i) During the field mission, interpretation from and into English, French, Arabic and Hebrew would be required. No summary records would be prepared but the oral testimony of witnesses would be recorded on tape and transcribed in Geneva. Written testimony would be translated into English and French from Arabic or Hebrew. The records of oral and written testimony of witnesses are expected to amount to approximately 1,000 pages in English and would be translated into French.

6. Operative subparagraph 17 (b) of the draft resolution requests the Secretary-General to continue to make available additional staff members as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its task. For this purpose the Secretary-General proposes to provide temporary assistance funds for 12 months for one P-2 and two General Service staff members, one of whom would assist the Special Committee in indexing and preparing monthly summaries of transcripts of evidence which it receives continuously. Furthermore, in order to keep the Special Committee furnished with up-to-date information on current developments in the Middle East region, newspapers issued in the region would be reviewed daily for information relating to its work, and translation from Arabic and Hebrew into English and French of the appropriate articles appearing in Arabic and Hebrew publications would be required. In addition, temporary assistance funds are requested for 12 months for one staff member at the P-3 level who would translate newspaper articles, reports, written testimony and transcripts, military orders and proclamations from Arabic and Hebrew into English and/or French. He or she would also prepare documentation for the meetings of the Special Committee.

7. The request to the Secretary-General, in operative subparagraph 17 (c) of the draft resolution, to ensure the widest circulation of the report of the Special

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Committee by all means available through the Department of Public Information would continue to be complied with within available resources.

8. The estimated cost of the above programme of work can be itemized as follows:

	\$	\$
I. <u>Meeting in Geneva, January/February 1984</u> (5 working days)		
Travel and subsistence of three members		
Travel	3 100	
Subsistence	<u>2 100</u>	5 200
II. <u>Meeting in Geneva, May/June 1984</u> (10 working days)		
Travel and subsistence of three members		
Travel	3 100	
Subsistence	<u>3 600</u>	6 700
III. <u>Field mission to Europe and the Middle East</u> <u>in late spring or early summer 1984</u>		
(a) Travel and subsistence of three members		
Travel	6 000	
Subsistence	<u>4 200</u>	10 200
(b) Travel and subsistence of six substantive and administrative staff (one principal secretary, one assistant secretary, one administrative and finance officer, one information officer, two secretaries)		
Travel	6 300	
Subsistence	<u>6 000</u>	12 300
(c) General operating expenses:		
(i) Rental of conference room and office space		
(ii) Local transportation		
(iii) Communications		
Administrative and press cables, telephones, etc.		

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	\$	\$
(iv) Air freight (sound equipment, tapes, etc.)		
(v) Miscellaneous and unforeseen expenses (travel and subsistence of witnesses, costs for notices in newspapers, etc.)	<u>13 000</u>	13 000
IV. <u>Meeting at Geneva, September 1984</u> (10 working days)		
Travel and subsistence of three members		
Travel	3 100	
Subsistence	<u>3 600</u>	6 700
V. <u>Meeting in New York, November/December 1984</u> (5 working days)		
(a) Travel and subsistence of three members		
Travel	3 800	
Subsistence	<u>2 700</u>	6 500
(b) Travel and subsistence of two staff members (Secretary of the Committee and one GS secretary)		
Travel	3 000	
Subsistence	<u>1 900</u>	4 900
VI. <u>Supplementary staff and other expenditures</u>		
Temporary assistance for indexing and summarizing transcripts of evidence (P-2, salary and common staff costs, 12 work-months)	45 200	
Secretarial assistance to service Special Committee (two General Service, salaries and common staff costs, 12 work-months)	63 800	
Overtime for secretarial staff	2 000	

	\$	\$
Temporary assistance for translation of newspaper articles, reports, written testimony and transcripts from Arabic and Hebrew into English and/or French, and for translation of military orders and proclamations from Arabic and Hebrew into English and/or French and preparation of documentation for Special Committee meetings (one P-3 salary and common staff costs, 12 work-months)	57 000	
General operating expenses (subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals, purchase of publications, special cartographic services, equipment, etc.)	<u>22 200</u>	<u>190 200</u>
Grand total		<u><u>255 700</u></u>

Summary

General temporary assistance	166 000
Overtime	2 000
Travel of representatives	35 300
Travel of staff	17 200
General operating expenses	<u>35 200</u>
Total	<u><u>255 700</u></u>

9. The conference-servicing costs which are likely to arise from the four meetings and one field mission of the Special Committee in 1984 have been estimated at \$438,700, as detailed below:

A. Meeting in Geneva - January/February 1984

(i) Pre-session documentation (21,450 words) (Languages: E,F)	15 400
(ii) Meeting-servicing (10 meetings) Interpretation Other costs	10 700 1 200
(iii) In-session documentation (4,950 words) (Languages: E,F)	3 500
(iv) Post-session documentation (16,500 words) (Languages: E,F)	12 100
(v) Transcript of testimony	<u>7 300</u>
Total	<u><u>50 200</u></u>

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	\$	\$
B. <u>Meeting in Geneva - May/June 1984</u>		
(i) Pre-session documentation (21,450 words) (Languages: E,F)	15 400	
(ii) Meeting-servicing (20 meetings) Interpretation	25 000	
Other costs	2 400	
(iii) In-session documentation (4,950 words) (Languages: E,F)	3 500	
(iv) Post-session documentation (16,500 words) (Languages: E,F)	12 100	
(v) Transcript of testimony	<u>23 600</u>	
Total	<u>82 000</u>	
C. <u>Field mission - Spring/Summer 1984</u>		
(i) Meeting-servicing on mission: Interpretation	46 600	
In-session documentation	29 200	
Travel of meeting-servicing staff	60 900	
Other costs	1 500	
(ii) Transcript of testimony	<u>21 900</u>	
Total	<u>160 100</u>	
D. <u>Meeting in Geneva - September 1984</u>		
(i) Pre-session documentation (21,450 words) (Languages: E,F)	15 400	
(ii) Meeting-servicing (20 meetings) Interpretation	25 000	
Other costs	2 400	
(iii) In-session documentation (6,600 words) (Languages: E,F)	4 700	
(iv) Post-session documentation (66,000 words) (Languages: E,F)	41 400	
(v) Transcript of testimony	<u>23 600</u>	
Total	<u>112 500</u>	

	\$	\$
E. <u>Meeting in New York - November/December 1984</u>		
(i) Pre-session documentation (8,250 words) (Languages: E,F) (<u>Geneva</u>)	6 000	
(ii) Meeting-servicing (10 meetings) Interpretation	14 200	
Other costs	300	
(iii) In-session documentation (3,300 words) (Languages: E,F)	2 800	
(iv) Post-session documentation (8,250 words) (Languages: E,F)	6 400	
(v) Requirements of the Office of General Services	<u>4 200</u>	
Total	<u>33 900</u>	

10. The conference-servicing costs indicated above were estimated on a full-cost basis, i.e. on the assumption that no part of the requirements would be made available from within existing resources. They will be included in the consolidated statement of total conference-servicing costs which will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session. At that time, net additional resources will be requested in the light of the total requirements for the calendar of conferences for 1984 as finally approved by the General Assembly.

11. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/SPC/38/L.38, however, an additional appropriation of \$255,700 would be required under section 23 (Human rights) of the programme budget for 1984-1985.
