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Forty-fourth session  
FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 123**PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991****International Computing Centre - 1990 budget estimates****Report of the Secretary-General**

1. The 1990 budget estimates of the International Computing Centre (ICC), Geneva, are summarized below for review and approval by the General Assembly in accordance with the procedure laid down by the Assembly in section III of its resolution 31/208 III of 22 December 1976. In that resolution, the Assembly endorsed the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) that, bearing in mind the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article 17 of the Charter of the United Nations, the budget of ICC should be subject to review and approval by the Assembly. In the absence of such a review, the proposed budgets of ICC would not be subject to scrutiny by any intergovernmental organ.

2. ICC was established in 1971 to serve all those organizations of the United Nations system wishing to participate in its activities. The large variety of substantive work carried out by its participants means that ICC has to provide a comprehensive range of interactive data, text-processing and related telecommunications services on a world-wide basis. The structure of the Centre is adjusted in response to participants' requirements, and its funding reflects the fact that not all participants make use of all the Centre's facilities all of the time. Users of ICC include the following participating organizations:

United Nations

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)  
World Food Programme (WFP)  
International Labour Organisation (ILO)  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT)  
International Trade Centre (ITC)  
World Bank  
International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)  
Industrial Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

3. At its sixty-fifth session held in September 1986, the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ) of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination proposed to the Management Committee of ICC that it consider the possibility of a complete presentation of budget estimates in Swiss francs, the currency in which a large part of the expenditures of ICC are actually incurred, in order to facilitate a meaningful analysis of real growth in the services provided. While the presentation by ICC of its 1990 budget estimates reflects compliance with that proposal, these estimates have, for their submission to the General Assembly, been converted to United States dollars at the rate of SwF 1.44 to the dollar as reflected in the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1990-1991. This has been done in order to relate the latter's share to the estimated total costs of ICC for 1990.

4. As shown in table 1, the 1990 budget estimates, based on an exchange rate of SwF 1.44 to the dollar, amount to \$11,260,400 as compared to a total of \$11,775,000 in 1989 which was based on an exchange rate of SwF 1.36 to the dollar. The estimates of \$2,500,300 in respect of the share (22.20 per cent) of the United Nations for the use of ICC (see table 2) in 1990 would be met from the resources (\$4,696,900) included under the major programme, Electronic support services, of section 28D (Office of General Services, Headquarters) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

5. Each year ICC requests the participating organizations to provide estimates of their probable usage of each type of service rendered. For the purpose of costing their probable usage of ICC services, the participating organizations are provided with the rates agreed to by the ICC Management Committee. Table 2 shows details on the 1990 probable use of ICC services as provided by the participating organizations.

Table 1. Total ICC budget estimates (1990)

		Estimated additional requirements (1990)			
1989 approved estimates		Maintenance of 1989 programmes a/	Programme growth b/	Inflation b/	1990 Total
SwF	16 014 000	(619 000)	500 000	320 000	16 215 000
\$US	11 775 000	(1 084 200)	347 200	222 200	11 260 400

a/ The "maintenance of 1989 programmes" estimate reflects revised 1989 cost estimates as opposed to 1989 estimates approved in 1988, and in the case of the dollar estimates an adjustment of the exchange rate reflected in the 1989 approved estimates (SwF 1.36) to the rate of exchange (SwF 1.44) on which the proposed programme budget of the United Nations for the biennium 1990-1991 is based.

b/ The growth in the programme (3.2 per cent) reflects a net increase in the ICC work-load expected from participants (see table 2). The inflation is a net figure reflecting the various rates for different items and averages out at approximately 2 per cent.

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Table 2. 1990 probable funding of ICC as estimated by participating organizations

Participating organization	Swiss francs			United States dollars 1990 a/	Percentage	
	Actual funding 1988	Estimated funding 1989      1990			1989	1990
United Nations	2 891 506	3 492 495	3 600 495	2 500 300	21.81	22.20
WHO	2 145 926	2 600 000	2 810 000	1 951 400	16.24	17.33
UNDP	276 713	264 151	73 882	51 300	1.65	0.46
UNICEF	141 268	128 000	128 831	89 500	0.80	0.79
ILO	380 077	444 700	484 000	336 100	2.78	2.98
WMO	41 483	53 300	57 000	39 600	0.33	0.35
UNRISD	11 212	20 400	10 000	6 900	0.13	0.06
UNEP	117 723	198 788	198 817	138 100	1.24	1.23
GATT	378 957	625 000	748 000	519 400	3.90	4.61
WIPO	807 245	1 302 333	1 447 914	1 005 500	8.13	8.93
UNESCO	41 483	27 200	44 800	31 100	0.17	0.28
ITC	433 895	410 300	392 800	272 800	2.56	2.42
UNHCR	2 087 626	3 221 000	4 315 200	2 996 700	20.12	26.61
WFP	1 208 626	1 518 500	1 982 000	1 376 400	9.48	12.22
World Bank	139 026	187 800	178 100	123 700	1.17	1.10
IFAD	1 122	223 000	651 000	452 100	1.39	4.01
UNIDO	2 242	12 946	12 946	9 000	0.08	0.08
IMF	5 606	3 357	3 518	2 400	0.02	0.02
FAO	-	-	50 000	34 700	0.00	0.31
Participants	11 211 736	14 733 270	17 179 303	11 937 000	92.00	105.95
Other funds	4 300 717	1 280 730	(964 303)	(676 600)	8.00	(5.95)
TOTAL	15 512 453	16 014 000	16 215 000	11 260 400	100.00	100.00

a/ Based on an exchange rate of SwF 1.44 to the dollar.

6. For comparative purposes, the actual funding for 1988 and the latest estimates of probable funding for 1989 are also shown in table 2. It should be noted that several of these estimates have been received, and included, in a provisional form, being subject in some cases to final review by governing bodies of the agencies concerned. The work of the participants ranges from well-articulated projects to tentative undertakings for which they are unable to give, at the present time, precise estimates of the resources required. If the pattern that has evolved in the past is repeated, then, as a participant's work programme becomes more specific during the year, it will revise its funding of the various activities.

7. Upon receipt of the various estimates of probable usage by the participating organizations, ICC translates the projected demand for its services into the physical resources required to meet the demand and, by grouping expenditures on similar resources, the ICC budget by purpose of expenditure is then developed. In the process ICC identifies eight types of activities as cost centres on the basis of which the full cost of the Centre's services are allocated and then charged to users at the rates agreed to by its Management Committee. Table 3 shows the allocation of the 1990 budget estimates, by purpose of expenditure, among the organizational units and types of service comprising the Centre. The entries in the body of this table represent the cost of each particular "resource group" needed to provide the service by a specific organizational unit of ICC. Overhead costs, shown under two columns in table 3 and totalling SwF 624,000 (\$433,300) or 3.8 per cent of the total budget, are prorated to the various services and included in the costs recoverable from participants.

8. As indicated in table 3, the 1990 total requirement of ICC based on probable usage by participants is estimated at SwF 16,215,000, or \$11,260,400 at an exchange rate of SwF 1.44 to the dollar. The budget level so estimated reflects a negative entry in the amount of SwF 964,303 designated as "Others funds" (see table 2). ICC indicates that on the one hand residual income would be received from non-participant organizations that use ICC facilities, for example, agencies of the United Nations system such as the International Telecommunication Union and inter-agency bodies such as CCAQ, the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and the Advisory Committee for the Co-ordination of Information Systems, national Governments and intergovernmental bodies and also from those participants which exceed their stated usage. On the other hand, savings resulting from inter-agency co-operation are expected to be returned to the participating agencies, resulting in a net negative entry of SwF 964,303.

9. Table 4 shows a summary of the 1990 budget estimates by purpose of expenditure and, for comparative purposes, the equivalent budget approved for 1989.

Table 3. Allocation of 1990 budget, by purpose of expenditure, to organizational unit and type of service

(In thousands of Swiss francs)

Purpose of expenditure	Office of the Director					Network Services Branch					Total
	Overhead	User liaison	Production services	Data entry	Overhead	Computer hardware	Exclusive hardware	Data storage	Paper	Other	
Salaries	477.0	764.3	185.1	244.1	98.0	725.0	116.7	787.0	1.4	801.4	4 200.0
Duty travel	15.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15.0
Contingency (personal services)	-	-	-	-	-	50.0	50.0	-	-	40.0	140.0
Supplies	-	-	20.0	75.0	-	436.0	-	71.0	210.0	788.0	1 600.0
Equipment	-	20.0	242.5	10.0	-	4 921.0	2 735.0	540.5	4.5	226.5	8 700.0
Technical documentation	1.5	3.5	-	-	-	3.5	-	-	-	1.5	10.0
Common services	32.5	55.0	245.0	5.2	-	518.2	78.5	393.5	98.5	123.6	1 550.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>526.0</b>	<b>842.8</b>	<b>692.6</b>	<b>334.3</b>	<b>98.0</b>	<b>6 653.7</b>	<b>2 980.2</b>	<b>1 792.0</b>	<b>314.4</b>	<b>1 981.0</b>	<b>16 215.0</b>
Overheads allocated	-	33.7	27.7	13.4	-	266.3	119.3	71.7	12.6	79.3	-
Amount recovered by cost centres	-	876.5	720.3	347.7	-	6 920.0	3 099.5	1 863.7	327.0	2 060.3	16 215.0

Table 4. Summary of budget estimates by purpose of expenditure

Purpose of expenditure	Approved estimates	Estimated requirements		Percentage of overall budget	
	1989 (SwF)	1990 (SwF)	1990 (\$US) a/	1989 %	1990 %
Salaries and related costs	4 100 000	4 200 000	2 916 700	25.60	25.90
Duty travel	15 000	15 000	10 400	0.10	0.09
Supplies and software	1 550 000	1 600 000	1 111 100	9.68	9.87
Equipment rental and related costs	8 700 000	8 700 000	6 041 700	54.33	53.66
Technical literature	9 000	10 000	6 900	0.05	0.06
Common services	1 500 000	1 550 000	1 076 400	9.57	9.56
Contingency (personal services)	140 000	140 000	97 200	0.87	0.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>16 014 000</b>	<b>16 215 000</b>	<b>11 260 400</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

a/ Based on an exchange rate of SwF 1.44 to the dollar.