



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/45/58
4 December 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-fifth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 118

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990-1991

Optical disc storage and retrieval system

Report of the Secretary-General

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly considered a report by the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled "From the optical disc pilot project at the United Nations Office at Geneva to an optical disc project for the United Nations" (A/44/684), comments on the report of JIU by the Secretary-General (A/44/684/Add.1) and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), related to the project. 1/ In its resolution 44/201 B, section XVI, part II, the Assembly took note of the report of JIU, the comments provided by the Secretary-General thereon and the information provided by the Secretariat. By the last two paragraphs of that resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General:

(a) To implement the optical disc project as outlined by JIU, in accordance with the recommendations of ACABQ and taking into account the views expressed by Member States at the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly;

(b) To prepare a report containing a comprehensive plan for full implementation of the system, including at the regional commissions and other duty stations, its impact on the availability of documents to Member States, a cost-benefit analysis and other relevant technical and financial issues and to submit it to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session.

2. The present progress report is submitted in response to that request.

II. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION

3. In order to implement the optical disc system, pursuant to paragraph 2 of part II of section XVI of General Assembly resolution 44/201 B, an interdepartmental steering group was formed within the Secretariat to establish the first phase of the system at Geneva and New York and to plan the implementation of the full system, to include the regional commissions and other duty stations. During the first half of 1990, the steering group concentrated on the preparation of a request for proposals for the implementation of phase I of the system. The request for proposals, prepared with the assistance of a consulting firm, has now been issued; proposals are expected to be received in January 1991. Although this request for proposals covers only the requirements for phase I of the project, vendors have been asked to demonstrate that they can deliver the equipment and services to establish the capabilities envisaged for phases II and III. The process of selecting the supplier is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 1991.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

A. Scope of the project

4. The project is intended to establish a fully operational system for:

(a) The storage of United Nations parliamentary documents on optical disc as coded text or image-based documents;

(b) The on-line retrieval of such documents by remote computer work-stations for display on screen or for print out;

(c) The high-speed transmission of such documents to United Nations duty stations, offices and missions of Member States and other users world wide. The parliamentary documentation, stored on line in data bases at United Nations Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva and described/indexed using the structure of the United Nations Bibliographic Information System (UNBIS), will include pre-session, in-session and post-session documentation for meetings and conferences of the Security Council, the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and the Trusteeship Council. The documents will be stored in all official languages of the United Nations: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Documents will be stored in coded form not only to reduce storage space requirements on the optical disc and facilitate transmission of documents through available communications lines but also to permit editors, translators and word-processors to reprocess texts retrieved from storage. The total number of pages to be processed each year is estimated at about 1 million standard pages, and a total of 2 million pages will be stored on line in the first phase of the project; in subsequent phases 2 million pages will be stored on line and additional pages will be stored in "jukeboxes" in both Geneva and New York. The material stored in jukeboxes will also be available on line, but the response time will be somewhat slower.

/...

5. The objectives of the system are:

- (a) To increase the speed and reduce the costs of world-wide distribution of parliamentary documents;
- (b) To provide a more economical and secure means of storing such documents;
- (c) To facilitate reference to these documents by users world wide.

B. Plan for phased implementation of project

6. The project will be implemented in three phases:

(a) In phase I, to be carried out during the present biennium, a fully operational system will be placed in service at the United Nations Office at Geneva, with access to the system provided to Secretariat users and up to 30 diplomatic missions of Member States; at United Nations Headquarters, a limited system, primarily for the input of documents, will be installed with capacity to store and retrieve parliamentary documents produced in New York, to exchange documents with Geneva and to operate an optical disc data base containing documents prepared in both New York and Geneva;

(b) In phase II, to be implemented during the biennium 1992-1993, the system will be made fully operational in New York, the number of internal retrieval work-stations in Geneva and New York will be increased, and access will be provided to an additional number of diplomatic missions in New York and Geneva;

(c) In phase III, to be implemented during the biennium 1994-1995, the system will be expanded to include the United Nations Office at Vienna, the regional commissions, Nairobi and other selected United Nations duty stations as well as to provide world-wide access through public networks to Member States and other users of United Nations parliamentary documents.

C. Brief description of the system proposed for phase I

7. In the first phase of the project a fully operational optical disc system will be established at the United Nations Office at Geneva, with telecommunications links to diplomatic missions at Geneva, and an initial system at United Nations Headquarters primarily to be used to input parliamentary documents produced in New York. In each location the system will have the capacity to input documents both in coded form (from word-processing) and in image form (from optical scanning), with bibliographic description and indexing based on UNBIS; to store the documents on optical disc; to retrieve them for viewing and printing; and to transmit them in electronic form within the Secretariat at Geneva and New York and between Geneva and New York. At Geneva, the system will also permit access by diplomatic missions.

/...

8. Parliamentary documents produced in New York will be processed at United Nations Headquarters; parliamentary documents produced at Geneva will be processed at the United Nations Office at Geneva. A daily exchange of documents in electronic form between New York and Geneva will ensure that the optical disc data bases at each location are complete and up to date and will also enable each unit to act as a back-up for the other. Provision will be made for the automatic transfer of inquiries to the data base in the other location whenever the system in one location is not operating.

9. Since this is the first phase of the establishment of a system eventually intended to serve all United Nations duty stations as well as external users, the design and installation of the initial system will take into account the need for subsequent expansion of the storage capacity of the data base, the number of networked work-stations (and hence the number of simultaneous requests for access) and the access for users at locations other than Geneva and New York (Vienna, Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Baghdad, Bangkok, Santiago and ultimately users at any location accessible through public telecommunications networks). The expansion of the system will benefit from experience acquired in the initial operation of the system at Geneva as well as developments in technology. Its pace will also be determined by the rate of progress in the establishment of global telecommunications networks and in the provision of computer work-stations for language services staff.

10. It is contemplated that eventually all diplomatic missions of Member States at Geneva will be connected to the system; in January 1990, there were 136 missions of Member States and 9 of observer missions. It is expected, however, that no more than 40 missions will ask to be connected in the first biennium of the operation of the system. During the same period, some 30 internal retrieval stations will be connected at Geneva with a possible total of 60 or so in the following biennium, as well as 80 external retrieval stations. In New York, while no external users are planned in the 1990-1991 biennium, diplomatic missions will be connected as from 1992. All of the missions, as well as a number of other external users, are expected eventually to be connected to the system. As many as 300 internal retrieval stations may be necessary within two to four years. All in all, more than 1,300 retrieval stations may eventually be connected to the system in New York.

11. The volume of documentation stored in the system is expected to grow by about 1 million pages a year; by early 1993, it will be necessary to have jukeboxes in both Geneva and New York and to store only the most recent documents on disc drives.

IV. BENEFITS EXPECTED FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SYSTEM

12. The actual configuration of the system, and hence its costs, will not be known until specific proposals from vendors are reviewed. In addition, benefits flowing from implementation of the project are generally of a long-term nature and are extremely difficult to quantify at the present point. Accordingly, it is not possible to submit the detailed cost-benefit analysis requested. It is, however, possible at this stage to indicate the areas in which the system, once fully

/...

operational, is expected to bring gains in efficiency and effectiveness and reductions in costs. The Secretary-General would propose to report further on the implementation of the optical disc project to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, in the context of consideration of his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

13. Substantial benefits will be realized once a collection of parliamentary documents spanning a period of several years has been stored in coded form in the data base and many users, including editors, translators and revisers, have been equipped with retrieval work-stations. Although this will not be the case during the initial phase of the project, these long-term benefits are included in the following description of the benefits the optical disc system is expected to bring at each stage of the processing, storage and distribution of parliamentary documentation. It should also be noted that the system is expected to bring benefits to a variety of users of documents in addition to those directly involved in their processing, primarily by improving the timely distribution and accessibility of documents, facilitating their use and reducing the need for storage of paper documents.

A. Editing

14. The fully operational system is expected to increase the productivity of editors and improve the quality of their work. The ability to retrieve on screen the full text in all official languages of previously published United Nations parliamentary documents would reduce the time required by editors to ensure complete and correct references to such documents and would facilitate their editing of new documents. To the extent that the optical disc data base contains the full text of the required reference documents, direct on-line access would reduce the time and staff resources devoted to research and the retrieval of paper copies of documents and might therefore eventually permit a reduction in the number of editorial clerk and editorial assistant posts. It would also reduce the need for editors to maintain such documents in local reference libraries, thus freeing space and resources for other uses. The ability to transfer text from the documents retrieved in coded form to documents being edited would also facilitate the editing process and save time in subsequent word-processing. In the first several years of operation of the full system, while the data base is being established, no post reductions are foreseen in the editorial services, although some gains in productivity and quality are expected.

F. Word-processing

15. The fully operational system is also expected to increase the productivity of word-processing operators. The storage in coded form in a central optical disc data base of the full text of all documents in all official languages would reduce the need for word-processing pools to maintain their own archives of completed documents and would also eliminate the need to supply copies of documents in electronic form to author departments; resources now devoted to these activities would be available for other productive work. The ability to recover the full text

/...

of documents in a coded form that would permit transfer of text to new documents received for processing would facilitate the processing of documents that repeat verbatim passages from published texts and thus increase productivity. Depending upon the methods decided upon for inputting and indexing documents for optical disc storage, the optical disc system might involve additional functions for the word-processing pools; however, the increases in productivity indicated above might permit the pools to perform these additional functions with no increase in staff.

C. Translating, including reference and terminology

16. Translators with retrieval work-stations and on-line access to a fully indexed full-text data base containing, in coded form and in all official languages, parliamentary documents issued during the past five years would benefit from the system in several important ways:

(a) They would be able to begin work on a document earlier, since referencing would require less time;

(b) They would be able to transfer text from coded documents retrieved from the data base to new documents received for translation when only slight modifications were made to a previous text;

(c) They could do more complete referencing, since they would have on-screen access to a full-text data base of parliamentary documents indexed according to subject, intergovernmental body and other standard elements and would not need to maintain individual reference collections of such documents; moreover, the documents would always be available at short notice.

As can be seen from the above description, the introduction of the optical disc system will bring immediate benefits to translators in terms of facilitating some aspects of their work. But these benefits will be expressed in improvements in the quality and timeliness of translations rather than in a reduction of staffing requirements in the translation services.

17. The reference services would benefit, since they would not have to provide paper copies of documents but could simply provide a list of reference documents, which the translators themselves could retrieve directly from the data base and either display on screen or print out. They would no longer need to maintain such extensive reference collections of current United Nations parliamentary documents or to make numerous copies of such documents for the simultaneous use of many translators. Some redeployment of staff resources from reference services might therefore be possible once the reference data base is well established, but this depends upon the proportion of the reference library accounted for by United Nations parliamentary documents since the reference and terminology collection also includes a wide variety of documents produced by other organizations, within and outside the United Nations system.

D. Printing

18. Between 7,000 and 8,000 documents (pre-session, in-session and post-session) are issued each year in thousands of copies at United Nations Headquarters, for the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Trusteeship Council and their subsidiary bodies. Printing and distribution are therefore areas in which the optical disc system is expected to bring important long-term financial benefits through savings in paper and other supplies, reduction of storage space requirements and possibly some reduction of posts. Although printed copies of documents would continue to be made available to all missions that desired them, it is expected that once missions and other heavy users of documents are accustomed to retrieving documents routinely from the optical disc system, their demand for printed copies will decrease and it will be possible to reduce initial print runs.

19. The total number of copies of a document that are printed is the sum of the number of copies requested by all recipients (including other United Nations offices and depository libraries) plus the number of copies required for distribution in conference rooms and the number of copies required for stock. The following data illustrate current roll figures at United Nations Headquarters for documents for selected organs:

Number of copies

	<u>Arabic</u>	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>French</u>	<u>Russian</u>	<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Assembly	619	199	4 212	1 432	477	722	7 661
Security Council	592	150	3 175	907	333	447	5 604
Economic and Social Council	440	180	3 222	1 062	293	482	5 679

Copies distributed to missions account for about one third of the total number of copies produced at Headquarters. To the extent that missions with access to the optical disc system decide to obtain documents from the data base in electronic form rather than in printed form, the number of copies printed for distribution to missions could be reduced.

20. Roughly 10 per cent of the total print run is required for secondary distribution in conference rooms. The number of copies printed for such distribution is determined by the membership of a body, the anticipated number of observers and the number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attending a particular meeting. Following each meeting the actual usage is analysed to keep the number of copies provided to future meetings of each body to a minimum. The copies placed in a conference room serve largely to satisfy secondary requests from delegates and Secretariat staff attending a particular meeting; each participant should normally have received the documents through the regular distribution prior

/...

to the meeting. The following data indicate the number of copies currently provided in a conference room during meetings of selected bodies:

	<u>Arabic</u>	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>French</u>	<u>Russian</u>	<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Assembly	100	50	400	225	60	150	985
Security Council	80	30	200	100	50	80	540
Economic and Social Council	60	30	250	100	30	75	545

It would always be necessary to have some printed copies on hand for immediate distribution, but it might be possible to reduce the stock on hand and to print copies of short documents on demand. However, this would involve a delay, since delegates would have to wait for the document to be printed, and it is not yet clear that the cost of acquiring and operating printers in each meeting room would be less than the present costs of printing the number of additional copies needed for secondary distribution in meeting rooms.

21. At present about 10 per cent of the copies initially printed go to stock; this number could be reduced considerably if the documents were available on optical disc and secondary requests were to be printed largely on demand. Whether this would bring net savings would depend upon the actual number of requests for documents, the size of the document requested and the costs of printing individual copies of documents on demand instead of printing a number of copies for secondary distribution during the initial print run. Of course, there would be a clear reduction in printing costs for the United Nations if those users with access to the optical disc system simply retrieved electronically and printed the documents they required themselves. Below is an indication of the number of copies currently kept in stock for selected bodies:

	<u>Arabic</u>	<u>Chinese</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>French</u>	<u>Russian</u>	<u>Spanish</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Assembly	75	40	350	200	50	100	815
Security Council	100	20	375	100	20	50	665
Economic and Social Council	50	40	250	100	35	80	555

/...

E. Distribution and storage

22. The JIU report gave particular emphasis to savings as a result of reduced needs for storage space, both in central documents distribution and in other areas such as the library and substantive departments with duplicate storage and document-processing activities. Some possibilities for reduction of storage space for documents produced at Headquarters and held for secondary distribution are described briefly below. As concerns storage requirements for documents in the library, the optical disc storage system is seen as a parallel means of storing parliamentary documents, rather than as a replacement for the original paper documents. Optical disc storage would facilitate access to these texts by users and would alleviate problems that may arise from the deterioration of paper documents. As concerns storage and document-processing activities in other substantive departments, the savings in space and resources will depend upon the relative importance of United Nations parliamentary documents in their reference collections.

23. In the central documents distribution service at Headquarters, parliamentary documents are normally kept in stock for two years after their original date of issuance; official records (verbatim and summary records, annexes and supplements) are kept for five years. Resolutions, however, are stored on a continuous basis. The following criteria are used to determine the number of copies to be stocked:

- (a) Distribution category;
- (b) Size of body;
- (c) Frequency of sessions;
- (d) Type of documents (e.g., recurrent report, statistics);
- (e) Number of pages of a document and comparative costs of storage versus rerolling;
- (f) General interest in a subject-matter;
- (g) Possible use of same documents by other bodies or committees;
- (h) Results of stock analysis of previous documents in the same or similar series;
- (i) Interest expected to be generated by the agenda item pertaining to a document;
- (j) Availability of reroll capacity.

24. The system is not expected to eliminate entirely the need for the distribution of printed documents to permanent missions in New York, Geneva and Vienna or to other users, such as depository libraries, although it is expected to decrease the

/...

number of copies being distributed and therefore to reduce the overall volume of work, bringing a reduction in storage space requirements and shipping costs and possibly permitting a reduction in staff resources.

25. Another significant benefit is expected to be a great improvement in the timeliness and economy of distribution. The transfer of documents in electronic form from the duty station at which they were generated or issued to other United Nations conference centres, diplomatic missions and other external users with the capacity for local retrieval, reproduction and distribution would eliminate delays and expense now experienced in the shipment of documents by surface or air.

F. Storage

26. It is expected that the optical disc system, once fully operational, will significantly reduce storage requirements for parliamentary documents, although there will be relatively little reduction of requirements in the first phase of the project. As the access to the optical disc storage expands and as users gain experience with the on-line retrieval of documents and the production of documents on demand, storage requirements for parliamentary documents could be substantially reduced if secondary distribution requirements were met largely through printing on demand.

27. Optical discs are less subject to wear and deterioration than are paper documents and microform copies and storage of documents on optical disc in a write once read only form (WORM) would increase the security of the collections of United Nations documents. In addition, it is easier and cheaper to make back-ups of optical discs. To maximize full benefits, the entire collection of parliamentary documents should eventually be transferred to optical disc storage, and the ability to transfer documents from microform to optical disc would greatly facilitate this process.

V. TECHNICAL ISSUES

28. In the process of preparing the detailed request for proposals for implementation of the first phase of the system, several technical issues were identified. While these will be considered in more detail in the analysis of specific proposals received from vendors, it would be appropriate to mention some of the issues at this stage.

A. Image-processing

29. Imaging technology has been available for over 20 years, but until recently it was too expensive for practical use on a widespread basis. In recent years, several dramatic technological breakthroughs have changed the situation. For example, the price of an image work-station has dropped from about \$250,000 to less than \$20,000. In addition, the speed of data transmission through communications networks has increased. Perhaps most important, optical disc technology has come

/...

to offer cost-effective storage for the large amount of data associated with image-processing. The technologies for low-cost mass storage and retrieval of data and for telecommunications networks are not self-sufficient; rather, they are "enabling technologies" that need to be integrated with other technologies in order to build an operational system. For this reason, particular attention must be given to systems integration.

B. Systems integration

30. The implementation of the optical disc system at the United Nations, particularly in the first phase of the project, is planned as a turn-key project. Potential vendors are required to deliver, install, test and render operational a system that adheres to international standards such as the International Organization for Standardization's X.400 and the International Telecommunication Union's International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee's Group IV. The system will employ an "open systems" architecture to provide the widest possible range of interconnectivity with work-stations from different vendors and with local and international telecommunications networks. This approach will minimize the development effort required on the part of the United Nations. The steering group and the project teams in New York and Geneva will concentrate during the first phase of implementation on monitoring the installation and integration process, as well as establishing proper organizational and procedural environments for the operation of the system. The actual effect of the traffic on the wiring plant of Geneva and New York is not known, but a capacity study is under way in New York and a pilot project is planned. The demands of the optical disc traffic will be considered in wiring plans for Geneva in relation to wiring needed for a new telephone system to be installed.

C. Indexing

31. During the pilot project, documents stored on optical disc were indexed by symbol and language. For a fully operational system, more complete indexing is essential. Therefore, it is planned to describe and index documents using the indexing methods and functions of UNBIS in order to facilitate the search for and retrieval of documents. During the first phase of the project, it is therefore necessary to develop an interface between the optical disc storage system and UNBIS. Such an intermediate software base interface will make it possible to identify documents quickly for retrieval. UNBIS should be seen as complementing the optical disc storage and retrieval system for documents. Documents will be described on the basis of the relevant bibliographic data from the first page of each parliamentary document: the symbol(s) that identify the document, the language (and language of the original if different), the United Nations body (and often subsidiary body) concerned, the session or meeting for which the document is issued, the agenda item number, the date, the title of the document, the personal/corporate/conference name and the type of circulation. They will be indexed by subject, using descriptors from the UNBIS thesaurus. Searching and retrieval of documents should be possible on the basis of any of the above-mentioned elements of the describing/indexing system of UNBIS.

/...

D. Documents format

32. Most parliamentary documents consist entirely of text, but some contain graphs, charts or maps. It is therefore necessary to have a system that can store documents in either image or coded form. Storage of documents in image form will be done, as in the pilot project, using optical scanners. For storage in coded form, the system must have an appropriate interface between word-processing and optical disc and suitable software to convert word-processing document formats into pages of coded text for storage and retrieval on optical disc. It must be able to store documents prepared with the various forms of word-processing software used by the United Nations: Wang World Language, Wang Cyrillic WP Plus, Wang Arabic Polyglot, WordPerfect and Great Wall. Another problem related to the format of documents arises in the case of mastheads. Documents are produced on word processors without mastheads, which are added during the printing process. Since most documents are to be stored in coded form and mastheads stored separately in image form, to enable users to recover a document in the same form in which it was originally published requires additional software in the retrieval system.

VI. FINANCING OF THE PROJECT

33. Pending receipt and analysis of proposals from potential vendors, additional requirements related to phase I of the optical disc project are still estimated at \$1.2 million. This estimate will of course be reviewed in the light of detailed proposals received and may vary according to the different solutions proposed, since these are likely to involve different systems and configurations of equipment and software. Such differences are more likely to apply to the central storage and retrieval system than to the individual retrieval work-stations, which will ultimately account for the major part of the costs of individual users of the system. It may be recalled that, as indicated to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, the retrieval work-station would include a standard IBM/AT compatible personal computer which, with operating system, high-definition screen, laser printer and specialized software and communications interface, is estimated to cost approximately \$14,000. Naturally, this equipment, like the enhancement of telecommunications networks, can serve other purposes besides those relating to the use of the optical disc storage and retrieval system.

34. In its report on this subject to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, 1/ ACABQ indicated its view that the estimated requirements of \$1.2 million should be financed from redeployment of resources and other savings in the proposed programme budget, as well as from the programme support component of extrabudgetary funds. In addition, it felt that the Secretary-General should explore further possibilities of voluntary contributions in cash and/or kind towards the optical disc system. In this context, it is proposed to defer acquisition of compact shelving and some lap-top computers in New York and redeploy the related provision of \$162,500 under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 to the optical disc project. In addition, savings of approximately \$237,500 are anticipated against resources appropriated for external typesetting of official records of the General Assembly under section 1 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as a result of the ability to produce

/...

certain official records of the General Assembly internally, using electronic typesetting techniques. Heavy competing demands on the extrabudgetary support accounts, including for the Integrated Management Information System, preclude reliance on this source of funding to which, in any case, the optical disc project is largely unrelated. It is not anticipated that more than \$400,000 could be made available from this source for phase I of the project and it is unlikely that further resources would be available from this source for future phases. With regard to the possibility of voluntary contributions for the full project, no solicitation has been made in view of the need to observe the requirements of competitive international bidding. Moreover, since it is necessary to establish a fully integrated system, contributions in kind of specific items of equipment might well create problems of compatibility.

35. As indicated above, resources proposed to be made available through redeployment and extrabudgetary accounts and amounting to \$800,000 would not be sufficient to meet the cost of phase I of the optical disc project in 1990-1991, estimated at \$1.2 million. Estimated additional requirements thus amount to \$400,000.

36. In its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, the General Assembly instituted a new procedure, beginning with the biennium 1990-1991, by which a contingency fund would be established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures relating to the biennium derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed resources available from the contingency fund, such additional expenditures can be included in the budget only through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modifications of existing activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium. In this context, a consolidated statement of all programme budget implications and revised estimates will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the current session.

37. As indicated above, the estimate of net additional requirements in 1990-1991 would amount to \$400,000 and cannot be absorbed within approved resources under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. In the event that it would not be possible to accommodate these additional requirements from the contingency fund, it would be necessary to limit the implementation of the project in 1991 to the establishment of a fully operational system at Geneva only.

VII. SUMMARY

38. Should the General Assembly approve the proposals contained in the present report, subject to guidelines for operation and use of the contingency fund, an additional appropriation of \$400,000 would be required under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. In addition, the Assembly's approval would be needed for redeployment to section 29 of \$237,500 appropriated for external printing and binding under section 1 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

/...

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session,
Supplement No. 7 (A/44/7 and addenda and corrigenda).
