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## PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995\*

### PART I. OVERALL POLICY-MAKING, DIRECTION AND COORDINATION

#### Section 2. *United Nations integrated offices*

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\* The present document contains section 2 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. The complete proposed programme budget will subsequently be issued in final printed form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/48/6/Rev.1)*.

## PART I

## OVERALL POLICY-MAKING, DIRECTION AND COORDINATION

## SECTION 2. UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED OFFICES

## Overview

TABLE 2.1. SUMMARY OF 1994-1995 ESTIMATES BY OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE  
(Thousands of United States dollars)

## Regular budget

Object of expenditure	1992-1993 revised appropriation	Resource growth		Total before recosting	Recosting	1994-1995 estimates
		Amount	Percentage			
Staff costs	-	2 396.2	-	2 396.2	188.7	2 584.9
Travel on official business	-	90.0	-	90.0	5.1	95.1
General operating expenses	-	720.0	-	720.0	111.6	831.6
Furniture and equipment	-	90.0	-	90.0	3.3	93.3
<b>Total, regular budget</b>	-	<b>3 296.2</b>	-	<b>3 296.2</b>	<b>308.7</b>	<b>3 604.9</b>

TABLE 2.2. POST REQUIREMENTS

	<i>Established posts</i>		<i>Temporary posts</i>				<i>Total</i>	
	<i>Regular budget</i>		<i>Regular budget</i>		<i>Extrabudgetary resources</i>			
	<i>1992-1993</i>	<i>1994-1995</i>	<i>1992-1993</i>	<i>1994-1995</i>	<i>1992-1993</i>	<i>1994-1995</i>	<i>1992-1993</i>	<i>1994-1995</i>
Professional category and above								
D-1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
P-5	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	4
P-4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>9</b>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>9</b>
Other categories								
Local level	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	9
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>9</b>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>9</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	-	<b>18</b>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>18</b>

*Overview*

2.1 In its resolution 1992/40 of 30 July 1992, entitled "Activities of the United Nations system in the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States", the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed the importance it attached to an integrated United Nations system approach to, and presence in, the region. It also invited the Secretary-General to report on ways of ensuring such an integrated approach and presence in the countries concerned and the steps already taken to do so.

2.2 In his report to the General Assembly on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities of the United Nations system (A/47/419/Add.3), the Secretary-General indicated the importance that he and the organizations of the United Nations system attached to an integrated approach to, and presence in, the region. The General Assembly endorsed that approach by its resolution 47/199 of 22 December 1992. In pursuance of the integrated approach, the Secretary-General decided to establish United Nations interim offices in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. The responsibility for the establishment of those offices, which were initially to focus on development assistance and information support to those countries, was entrusted to the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and financial and administrative arrangements were agreed between the United Nations and UNDP. The Secretary-General is now proposing that the offices be designated United Nations integrated offices.

2.3 This specific initiative should be seen in the context of the Secretary-General's commitment to promoting a unified United Nations presence at the country level. That commitment springs from his conviction that the principal duty of the United Nations is to devise and apply an integrated approach to human security in all its aspects, involving all parts of the United Nations system within their respective areas of competence. Such an approach requires effective coordination between United Nations bodies at the country level and the headquarters level. The designation of a single official as United Nations representative at the country level should facilitate access to the capacities of the system by Member States, especially newly independent States or other States in transition. The establishment of common premises should also facilitate coordination and access, as well as promoting economies of scale.

2.4 A number of initiatives to promote integration and/or coordination at the country level are already well established, including the resident coordinator system and the steps taken to integrate United Nations information centres with other United Nations offices. The Secretary-General's initiative in establishing the seven interim offices, with direct financial input from the regular budget, should not be seen as detracting from those measures, but rather adding a new approach in promoting the overall goal of greater efficiency and effectiveness in meeting the needs of Member States. It is therefore his intention to extend the application of this new approach as appropriate. In this context, plans are under way to establish integrated offices in Eritrea and the Russian Federation, at the request of the Governments concerned.

2.5 The overall strategy for the establishment and operation of the United Nations integrated offices in the biennium 1994-1995 is to provide a unified United Nations presence in certain countries and to facilitate a practical and effective dialogue between the United Nations and its programmes, funds and offices and the new Member States. Major activities of the United Nations integrated offices will include special projects to support the economic and social transition in the countries concerned through the provision of essential services for development; humanitarian emergency assistance; public information; and international peace and security, as appropriate.

2.6 In accordance with a memorandum of understanding currently being finalized, UNDP has entered into agreement with the United Nations, under the terms of which the United Nations and UNDP assume joint responsibility for the administrative and financial aspects of each of the seven interim offices established so far. That agreement will provide a model for possible future offices of this type, although details would have to depend on the precise circumstances of each country.

*Programme of work*

2.7 Major activities of the United Nations integrated offices will include special projects to support the economic and social transition of the host country, strengthening the role of national media and their infrastructure, liaison with local institutions, feedback from published material on issues of direct concern to the Organization and overall coverage of issues relevant to the United Nations and the countries concerned.

2.8 It is envisaged that the public information activities of the United Nations integrated offices will include collaboration with national information media (newspapers, academic institutions, public libraries and other local bodies), to create greater public awareness of the United Nations and for the wider dissemination of United Nations public information materials. The integrated offices will also provide timely feedback to United Nations Headquarters of published and publicly available national media and official comments on issues of concern to the Secretary-General and to the United Nations.

2.9 The integrated offices will serve the purpose of building the human and institutional capacity required for the management and early consolidation of the process of social, political and economic transition. The fundamental aim is to encourage populations to become involved in the reform process, to permit them to assume their roles in an open society and to mitigate the hardship that accompanies the transition process.

2.10 The interim offices are also engaged in providing support for humanitarian emergency assistance activities, notably in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The humanitarian programmes provide emergency humanitarian needs in respect of food, health, transport, household items, shelter, water and sanitation.

2.11 A number of countries in which the United Nations interim offices operate require special assistance to support their economic and social development and their adjustment to independence. Some of those countries have been involved in actual or potential conflicts in respect of which the Secretary-General has been mandated to play a peace-making role.

2.12 The United Nations integrated offices thus provide an opportunity to take a new approach to United Nations representation at the country level which addresses in a comprehensive way the political, socio-economic, environmental and humanitarian dimensions of the situation in which each of the countries concerned finds itself.

*Resource requirements (at current rates)*

2.13 Details of resource requirements for the interim offices during 1992-1993 were set out in document A/C.5/47/89. Consistent with the related decision of the General Assembly, those requirements have been met through temporary redeployment of posts and otherwise absorbed within existing resources.

*Staff costs*

2.14 The resource level for the biennium 1994-1995 was estimated on the basis of the resource requirements of the established United Nations interim offices in 1992-1993. The estimated staff requirements for 1994-1995 include the provision of nine Professional posts (three D-1, four P-5, two P-4) and nine local level posts (see table 2.2). The estimated staff costs would amount to \$2,396,200. Should the Secretary-General decide to establish additional integrated offices, additional staffing and other resources would be requested as appropriate.

*Travel on official business*

2.15 The estimated requirements for travel on official business (\$90,000) relate to travel of staff to integrated offices and additional travel required in the context of the activities of each office.

*General operating expenses*

2.16 The estimated requirements for General operating expenses would amount to \$720,000. These resources relate to the United Nations share of recurrent operating costs, including supplies and materials, for the nine United Nations integrated offices for the biennium 1994-1995. A further non-recurrent provision of \$90,000 has been made for furniture and equipment, representing the United Nations share of start-up costs for proposed integrated offices in Eritrea and the Russian Federation. Provision for the United Nations share of those costs is based on an existing agreement between the United Nations and UNDP, by which the United Nations and UNDP agreed in principle that the start-up and recurrent operating costs requirements for the seven existing United Nations interim offices would be shared, with the understanding that the United Nations share of such costs would not exceed an average of \$45,000 in start-up costs and \$40,000 for recurrent operating costs per office per annum.