



General Assembly

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Agenda items 141 and 103 (p)

Proposed programme budget for 2021

**General and complete disarmament: the illicit trade in
small arms and light weapons in all its aspects**

The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

Programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.1/75/L.44](#)

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

I. Introduction

1. At its 13th meeting, on 6 November 2020, the First Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.1/75/L.44](#) without a vote. A statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution was before the Committee ([A/C.1/75/L.75](#)).

II. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 7 and 8 of draft resolution [A/C.1/75/L.44](#), the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide, pursuant to decision 74/552, to convene a one-week biennial meeting of States from 26 to 30 July 2021 to consider key challenges and opportunities relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons at the national, regional and global levels for the purposes of preventing and combating the diversion and the illicit international transfer of small arms and light weapons to unauthorized recipients;

(b) Renew its decision, pursuant to the schedule of meetings for the period from 2018 to 2024 agreed upon at the third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat



and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (the third Review Conference), to convene a one-week biennial meeting of States in 2022 and the fourth Review Conference in 2024, to be preceded by a preparatory committee meeting in early 2024 of not more than five days.

III. Relationship of the proposed requests to the proposed programme budget for 2021

3. The requested activities referred to in the draft resolution relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme plan for 2021 and to section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6 \(Sect. 2\)](#)).

IV. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

4. Pursuant to the request contained in operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, it is envisaged that the one-week biennial meeting, consisting of 10 sessions, would be held in New York from 26 to 30 July 2021 with interpretation in the six official languages. The sessions would require meetings services to be provided by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in 2021.

5. In addition, the request for documentation would require documentation services to be provided by the Department in the form of four pre-session documents (total of 13,000 words), two in-session documents (total of 13,000 words) and three post-session documents (total of 16,000 words) to be issued in all six languages in 2021.

6. With regard to operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, it is understood that issues relating to the one-week biennial meeting in 2022 and the fourth Review Conference and its preceding preparatory committee meeting in 2024, including the dates, format, scope and modalities, are yet to be determined.

V. Financial implications of the proposals

7. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution [74/60](#), the biennial meeting was originally scheduled to be held from 15 to 19 June 2020, for which a provision in the amount of \$240,700 was approved in the programme budget for 2020, as shown in the table below.

8. Pursuant to operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, it is estimated that resources in the amount of \$203,100 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, would be required in support of the meetings and documentation in 2021.

9. Details of the additional meetings and documentation resource requirements are provided in the table below.

Additional meetings and documentation resource requirements

(United States dollars)

	<i>2020 approved budget</i>	<i>Revised total requirements 2020–2021</i>	<i>Requirements 2020</i>	<i>Requirements 2021</i>
Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management				
Interpretation	84 000	84 000	–	84 000
Pre-session documentation	67 200	67 200	37 600	29 600
In-session documentation	40 000	40 000	–	40 000
Post-session documentation	49 500	49 500	–	49 500
Total	240 700	240 700	37 600	203 100

10. As at the time of writing, the requirements for 2020 are estimated at \$37,600. The difference between the approved resources for 2020 (\$240,700) and the final expenditure will be surrendered in the context of the financial performance report for 2020, to be submitted to the General Assembly at the main part of its seventy-sixth session.

VI. Potential for absorption during 2021

11. No provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for 2021 for the implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraph 7 of the draft resolution. At this stage, it is not possible to identify activities within the relevant section of the proposed programme budget for 2021 that could be terminated, deferred, curtailed or modified during 2021. It is therefore necessary that the additional resources in the amount of \$203,100 be provided through an additional appropriation for 2021.

12. With regard to operative paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, in the absence of modalities for the biennial meeting in 2022 and the Review Conference and its preceding preparatory committee meeting in 2024, it is not currently possible to estimate the resource requirements for support services, including meetings and documentation. Once a decision has been reached on the modalities, the Secretary-General will submit any related budgetary implications in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

VII. Contingency fund

13. In its resolution [72/266 A](#), the General Assembly approved the proposal of the Secretary-General to continue to apply, in the context of the annual budget, the provisions governing the contingency fund established in its resolutions [41/213](#) and [42/211](#).

VIII. Conclusion and action required of the General Assembly

14. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution [A/C.1/75/L.44](#), additional resource requirements in the amount of \$203,100 for 2021 would arise under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for 2021. The amount of \$203,100 would require an additional appropriation for 2021 to be approved by the Assembly and, as such, would represent a charge against the contingency fund.