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Proposed programme budget for 2021

Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

Report of the Secretary-General

I. Background

1. The consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates follows the guidelines for the contingency fund contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution [42/211](#).
2. In 1993, during its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1994–1995, the General Assembly, in its resolution [48/228 A](#), endorsed the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Coordination in which the Committee questioned the usefulness of designating high or low priorities at the level of output or activity and recommended that the practice be discontinued ([A/48/16 \(Part II\)](#), para. 40). As the present budget no longer contains priority-setting information approved by Member States, alternative options for the reallocation or reduction of resources between high- and low-priority mandated programme elements, including the deferral, termination and curtailment of mandated activities, would require General Assembly approval.

II. Contingency fund level for 2021

3. In 2019, the Secretary-General, in his report entitled “Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates” ([A/C.5/74/14](#)), requested the Assembly to set the level of the contingency fund for 2021 at 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2020, or \$23,053,700.
4. The General Assembly, in its resolution [74/263](#), noted that a balance of \$8,200 remained in the contingency fund for 2020. No decision was made regarding the level of the contingency fund for 2021.



III. Potential charges against the contingency fund for 2021

5. Potential charges, amounting to \$48,171,300, are detailed in table 1 and exceed the proposed level of \$23,053,700 by \$25,117,600.

6. Total potential charges reflect the information available at the time of the finalization of the present report.

Table 1

Potential charges against the contingency fund for 2021, by report

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Report	Secretary-General's proposal ^a /potential charges
Proposed level of the contingency fund for 2021	23 053.7
Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok (A/75/235)	6 321.6
Progress in the renovation of Africa Hall at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa (A/75/319)	—
Progress on the replacement of office blocks A–J at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/75/331)	7 974.5
Progress report on the implementation of a flexible workplace at United Nations Headquarters (A/75/342)	—
Progress on the renovation of the North Building at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago (A/75/347)	1 642.2
Revised estimates relating to the proposed programme budget for 2021 under section 27, Humanitarian assistance, and section 36, Staff assessment: United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for the Syrian Arab Republic (A/75/372)	1 972.0
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session (A/75/556)	1 590.7
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its forty-third, forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions (A/75/588)	25 711.4
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council: revised estimates resulting from decision OS/14/101, adopted at the organizational session for the fifteenth cycle of the Human Rights Council (A/75/588/Add.1)	96.5
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2020 session (A/75/333)	—
Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session (A/75/608)	78.0
Programme budget implications: Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus (A/C.5/75/10)	286.9
Programme budget implications: The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects (A/C.5/75/12)	203.1
Programme budget implications: Developments in the field of information and telecommunication in the context of international security (A/C.5/75/13)	269.9
Programme budget implications: Open-Ended Working Group on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/27 of 5 December 2018 (A/C.5/75/14)	187.5
Programme budget implications: Group of Governmental Experts on Advancing Responsible State Behaviour in Cyberspace in the Context of International Security established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 73/266 of 22 December 2018 (A/C.5/75/15)	366.6

<i>Report</i>	<i>Secretary-General's proposal^a/potential charges</i>
Programme budget implications: A global call for concrete action for the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (A/C.5/75/18)	262.3
Programme budget implications: Oceans and the law of the sea (A/C.5/75/19)	1 208.1
Total potential charges	48 171.3
Potential shortfall	25 117.6

^a Net of staff assessment.

Table 2
Breakdown of potential charges against the contingency fund for 2021, by budget section
 (Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Budget section</i>	<i>Secretary-General's proposal^a/potential charges</i>
2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management	5 058.6
4. Disarmament	432.3
8. Legal affairs	584.2
16. International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice	566.1
19. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	1 083.8
21. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	217.7
24. Human rights	23 292.9
27. Humanitarian assistance	1 972.0
28. Global communications	251.3
29E. Administration, Geneva	75.6
29G. Administration, Nairobi	765.6
33. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	13 819.6
34. Safety and security	51.6
Total potential charges	48 171.3

^a Net of staff assessment.

IV. Contingency fund level for 2022

7. In keeping with established practice, the Secretary-General has proposed, in the context of the introduction to the proposed programme budget for 2021 (see [A/75/6 \(Introduction\)](#), para. 74), that the level of the contingency fund for 2022 be set at 0.75 per cent of the approved programme budget for 2021.