



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-ninth session

Agenda items 139 and 123

### Proposed programme budget for 2025

#### Strengthening of the United Nations system

## **Request for an advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the obligations of Israel in relation to the presence and activities of the United Nations, other international organizations and third States**

Programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/79/L.28/Rev.1](#)

Thirty-eighth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for 2025

### **I. Introduction**

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/79/29/Rev.1](#)), in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/79/L.28/Rev.1](#). During its consideration of the statement, the Committee was provided with additional information and clarifications, concluding with written responses received on 9 December 2024.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 10 of draft resolution [A/79/L.28/Rev.1](#), the General Assembly would decide, in accordance with Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations, to request the International Court of Justice, pursuant to Article 65 of the Statute of the Court, on a priority basis and with the utmost urgency, to render an advisory opinion on the following question, considering the rules and principles of international law, as regards in particular the Charter of the United Nations, international humanitarian law, international human rights law, privileges and immunities applicable under international law for international organizations and States, relevant resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, the advisory opinion of the Court of 9 July 2004, and the advisory opinion of the Court of 19 July 2024, in which the Court reaffirmed the duty of an occupying Power to administer occupied territory for the benefit of the local population and affirmed that



Israel is not entitled to sovereignty over or to exercise sovereign powers in any part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory on account of its occupation:

What are the obligations of Israel, as an occupying Power and as a member of the United Nations, in relation to the presence and activities of the United Nations, including its agencies and bodies, other international organizations and third States, in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including to ensure and facilitate the unhindered provision of urgently needed supplies essential to the survival of the Palestinian civilian population as well as of basic services and humanitarian and development assistance, for the benefit of the Palestinian civilian population, and in support of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination?

3. The statement of the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/79/29/Rev.1](#)) provides information on: (a) the relationship between the proposed request and the proposed programme budget for 2025 (*ibid.*, para. 2); (b) the deliverables and activities by which the proposed request would be implemented (*ibid.*, paras. 3 and 4); (c) the budgetary implications of the proposal (*ibid.*, paras. 5–7); and (d) a summary of the related resource requirements and the potential for their absorption during 2025 (*ibid.* paras. 8 and 9).

## II. Resource requirements

4. It is indicated in the statement of the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/79/29/Rev.1](#)) that the implementation of the mandate contained in the draft resolution would require additional deliverables and activities under section 7, International Court of Justice, of the proposed programme budget for 2025. The related budgetary implications for 2025 would amount to \$298,900 and comprise: under other staff costs, interpretation services (\$90,000) and meeting services (\$68,600); under contractual services, external translation (\$80,000) and other services (\$4,500); under general operating expenses, rental of furniture and equipment (\$31,800) and security services (\$20,000); and supplies and materials (\$4,000) (*ibid.*, table 1).

5. With respect to the press room requirements (*ibid.*, para. 4), the Advisory Committee was informed, upon enquiry, that the Court had one small press room which could accommodate 35 journalists and that, for high-profile cases, an additional press room is set up to accommodate additional members of the press, requiring screens, speakers, audiovisual breakout boxes, cabling and power sources, and other equipment which is not available within existing resources. The Committee was further informed that, in the two most recent advisory opinions, the Court had more than 90 journalists accredited and that the press coverage of the activities of the Court had increased steeply over the past few years.

## III. Conclusion

6. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are contained in paragraph 10 of the statement ([A/C.5/79/29/Rev.1](#)). **The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution [A/79/L.28/Rev.1](#), additional resource requirements of \$298,900 would arise under section 7, International Court of Justice, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, and would require an additional appropriation for 2025 to be approved by the Assembly, representing a potential charge against the contingency fund.**

7. Additional resource requirements in the amount of \$19,000 would also arise under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for 2025, and would require an additional appropriation by the General Assembly, to be offset by an equivalent amount of \$19,000 under income section 1, Income from staff assessment.

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