



# General Assembly

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## Sixty-ninth session

Agenda items 132 and 17 (c)

### Programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015

Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt sustainability  
and development

## **Modalities for the implementation of resolution 68/304, entitled “Towards the establishment of a multilateral legal framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes”**

Programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.4/Rev.1](#)

### **Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

## **I. Introduction**

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered an advance version of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.4/Rev.1](#), on the modalities for the implementation of resolution 68/304, entitled “Towards the establishment of a multilateral legal framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes” ([A/C.5/69/13](#)). During its consideration of the statement, the Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarifications concluding with written responses received on 12 December 2014.

2. In the introduction to his statement, the Secretary-General indicates that, at its 37th meeting, on 5 December 2014, the Second Committee of the General Assembly adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.4/Rev.1](#) and that a statement of programme budget implications was before the Second Committee ([A/C.2/69/L.59](#)).

3. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the statement, under the terms of operative paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 10 of draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.4/Rev.1](#), the General Assembly would:



(a) Decide to establish an ad hoc committee to elaborate a multilateral legal framework for sovereign debt restructuring processes with a view, inter alia, to increasing the efficiency, stability and predictability of the international financial system and achieving economic growth and sustainable development;

(b) Also decide that the ad hoc committee shall hold at least three meetings of a duration of three working days each late January and in May and June/July of 2015; and that the ad hoc committee may hold additional consultations and drafting sessions as required;

(c) Further decide that the ad hoc committee shall meet at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

(d) Request the ad hoc committee to present to the General Assembly, at its sixty-ninth session, a proposal for consideration and appropriate action.

4. The Secretary-General indicates that the requested activities relate to programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and Conference Management, Part A, conference management, of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2014-2015 ([A/67/6/Rev.1](#)), and also fall under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015.

## **II. Resource implications of the proposals**

5. As indicated in sections IV and V of the statement, the Secretary-General's proposals pursuant to the draft resolution would entail additional resource requirements in the amount of \$251,900 for the 2014-2015 biennium under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, comprising \$201,000 for interpretation and \$50,900 for pre-session documentation.

## **III. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented**

6. Section IV of the Secretary-General's statement lays out the activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented. The activities include at least three meetings of a duration of three working days each in 2015, comprising a total of 18 meetings (one in the morning and one in the afternoon), with interpretation in all six languages. The Secretary-General indicates that any additional meetings services in excess of the 18 meetings would be provided on an "if available" basis. He also indicates that the request contained in operative paragraph 10 of the resolution (see para. 3 (d) above) will constitute an addition to the documentation workload of the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document of 8,500 words to be issued in all six languages.

7. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the estimated costs of processing documents for all duty stations are based on a single global costing model that accounts for differences in the processing workflow, scale of operations and prevailing market conditions across duty stations. In the context of its consideration of the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/69/L.29](#),

on oceans and the law of the sea, the Committee was provided, upon request, with comparative information on the costs of processing one document of 8,500 words (\$50,900) and one document of 27,500 words (\$161,800) in New York (see annex).

8. **The Advisory Committee intends to examine the costing model for the processing of official documents by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management at the four duty stations, New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi, in greater detail in the context of the consideration of the proposed programme budget for 2016-2017.**

#### **IV. Conclusion**

9. The actions to be taken by the General Assembly are contained in paragraph 9 of the Secretary-General's statement. **The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution [A/C.2/69/L.4/Rev.1](#), additional resources in the amount of \$251,900 would be required under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015. This would represent a charge against the contingency fund and, as such, would require additional appropriation for the biennium.**

## Annex

Service	Document of 8,500 words		Document of 27,500 words		Cost per unit (in United States dollars)	Cost per 8,500 words (in United States dollars)	Cost per 27,500 words (in United States dollars)
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)=(b)·(e)	(g)=(d)·(e)
Translation and revision <sup>a</sup>	26 pages	49 days to translate	83 pages	157 days to translate	764.09	37 440.41	119 962.13
Text-processing <sup>b</sup>	26 pages	31 days to process	83 pages	98 days to process	307.38	9 528.78	30 123.24
Reproduction <sup>c</sup>	26 pages	51,194 impressed pages	83 pages	163,427 impressed pages	0.07	3 548.97	11 329.41
Distribution <sup>d</sup>	1 document	1,969 documents to distribute	1 document	1,969 documents to distribute	0.19	382.88	382.88
<b>Total</b>						<b>50 900<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>161 800<sup>e</sup></b>

<sup>a</sup> Based on a standard of 1.88 work days (rounded) per page to be translated in all official languages.

<sup>b</sup> Based on a standard of 1.18 work days (rounded) per page to be processed in all official languages.

<sup>c</sup> Based on a historical standard of 1,969 impressions per page.

<sup>d</sup> Based on the standard of 1,969 impressions per document.

<sup>e</sup> Rounded.