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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989*

PART IV. ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES

Section 5A. Office of the Director-General for Development
and International Economic Co-operation

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation	2

* The programme budget as approved by the General Assembly will be issued in its entirety as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/42/6/Rev.1).

SECTION 5A. OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT
AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

TABLE 5A.1. ANALYSIS OF OVERALL COSTS

(Thousands of United States dollars)

DIRECT COSTS

(1) Regular budget

1986-1987 appropri- ation	Estimated additional requirements									
	Revaluation of 1986-1987 re- source base (at revised 1987 rates)		Resource growth (at revised 1987 rates)		Inflation in 1988 and 1989		Total increase		1988-1989 estimates	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
3 813.4	(293.3)	(7.6)	(48.5)	(1.2)	156.3	4.0	(185.5)	(4.8)	3 627.9	

Analysis of real growth (at revised 1987 rates)

(1) Total revalued 1986-1987 resource base	Resource growth					Rate of real growth (5) over (1)
	(2) Actual	(3) Less non-recurrent items	(4) Plus delayed growth (new posts)	(5) Adjusted	(1)	
3 520.1	(48.5)	30.9	-	(79.4)	(2.2) %	

TABLE 5A.1 (continued)

(2) Extrabudgetary resources

	1986-1987 estimated expenditures	1988-1989 estimated expenditures
(a) Services in support of:		
(i) Other United Nations organizations	-	-
(ii) Extrabudgetary programmes	146.7	123.4
Total (a)	146.7	123.4
(b) Substantive activities	373.9	383.0
Total (b)	373.9	383.0
(c) Operational projects		
United Nations Trust Fund to facilitate activities related to the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy	126.0	129.1
Total (c)	126.0	129.1
Total (a), (b) and (c)	646.6	635.5
Total, direct costs		4 263.4

TABLE 5A.2. ANALYSIS OF REVALUED 1986-1987 RESOURCE BASE (AT REVISED 1987 RATE)
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Programme	Additional requirements							Net additional requirements (9)	Total revalued 1986-1987 resource base (10)
	1986-1987 appropriation (1)	Non-recurrent items (2)	Delayed impact of 1986-1987 growth (3)	Other objects of expenditure (4)	Established posts (5)	Other objects of expenditure (6)	Special adjustments (7)		
Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation	3 813.4	31.4	-	-	24.2	7.7	(293.8) ^{a/}	(293.3)	3 520.1
Total	3 813.4	31.4	-	-	24.2	7.7	(293.8) ^{a/}	(293.3)	3 520.1

^{a/} Reflects the revised 1988-1989 vacancy rates.

TABLE 5A.3. REGULAR BUDGET, DIRECT COSTS: SUMMARY OF 1988-1989 REQUIREMENTS AND RATES OF REAL GROWTH, BY OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Objects of expenditure	Estimated additional requirements							Rates of real growth %
	1986-1987 appropriation	Revaluation of 1986-1987 resource base (at revised 1987 rates)	Resource growth (at Inflation revised in 1988 and 1989 rates)	1988 and 1989	Total increase	1988-1989 estimates		
Established posts	2 245.7	(180.7)	-	94.3	(86.4)	2 159.3	-	
General temporary assistance	18.3	0.3	-	0.9	1.2	19.5	-	
Consultants	158.7	2.3	(48.4)	5.2	(40.9)	117.8	(30.0)	
Overtime	17.0	0.3	-	0.8	1.1	18.1	-	
Temporary posts	166.2	(12.0)	-	7.1	(4.9)	161.3	-	
Common staff costs	836.1	(64.9)	-	33.8	(31.1)	805.0	-	
Representation allowances	29.6	(12.0)	-	-	(12.0)	17.6	-	
Other official travel of staff	295.3	(27.3)	(14.2)	11.5	(30.0)	265.3	(15.0)	
External printing and binding	7.6	0.1	(1.2)	0.3	(0.8)	6.8	(15.5)	
Rental and maintenance of equipment	5.1	0.1	1.9	0.3	2.3	7.4	36.5	
Communications	24.9	0.4	-	1.2	1.6	26.5	-	
Supplies and materials	-	-	9.0	0.3	9.3	9.3	-	
Furniture and equipment	-	-	4.9	0.2	5.1	5.1	-	
Replacement of word-processing equipment	8.9	0.1	(0.5)	0.4	-	8.9	(5.5)	
Total	3 813.4	(293.3)	(48.5)	156.3	(185.5)	3 627.9	(2.2)	

TABLE 5A.4. POST REQUIREMENTS

Organizational unit: Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation

	Established posts		Temporary posts				Total	
	Regular budget		Regular budget		Extrabudgetary resources			
	1986-1987	1988-1989	1986-1987	1988-1989	1986-1987	1988-1989		1986-1987
USG	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
ASG	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
D-2	3	3	-	-	-	-	3	3
D-1	4	4	1	1	-	-	5	5
P-5	4	4	-	-	-	-	4	4
P-3	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1
Total	13	13	1	1	1	1	15	15
General Service category								
Other levels	13	13	1	1	-	-	14	14
Total	13	13	1	1	-	-	14	14
Grand total	26	26	2	2	1	1	29	29

5A.1 The Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977 on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations, and carries out its functions in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 64 of the annex to that resolution and section IV of General Assembly resolution 33/202 of 29 January 1979. Under those resolutions, the Director-General, acting under the authority of the Secretary-General as chief administrative officer, assists him in carrying out his responsibilities in the economic and social fields. The general areas of responsibility as set forth in resolution 32/197 are:

"(a) Ensuring the provision of effective leadership to the various components of the United Nations system in the field of development and international economic co-operation and in exercising overall co-ordination within the system in order to ensure a multidisciplinary approach to the problems of development on a system-wide basis;

"(b) Ensuring, within the United Nations, the coherence, co-ordination and efficient management of all activities in the economic and social fields financed by the regular budget or by extrabudgetary resources."

In addition, the resolution notes that the Secretary-General "could entrust to the Director-General other tasks in areas of responsibility related to the ensemble of economic and social activities of the United Nations."

5A.2 The specific areas of responsibility entrusted by the Secretary-General to the Director-General pursuant to the above resolutions are set out in the report of the Secretary-General on the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system (A/33/410/Rev.1, paras. 17-47).

5A.3 The activities to be performed by the Office of the Director-General during the biennium to support the Director-General in the exercise of the above responsibilities are described below under two broad headings: international co-operation for economic and social development, and co-ordination and management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations. It is emphasized that given the nature of responsibilities entrusted to the Office, it is not possible to identify in advance and programme the full range of activities to be performed. The Office is called upon to respond to unforeseen and new requirements and thus a capacity to adjust its work programme is essential.

International co-operation for economic and social development

A. Global economic and social issues

5A.4 Activities involve the co-ordination and overseeing of analysis of global economic and social issues with a view to strengthening international co-operation, promoting a multidisciplinary approach to development issues and assisting in the identification of and focus on emerging problems requiring the attention of and/or action by the international community. Tasks to be performed in this context during the biennium include:

(a) Consultations and negotiations on global economic and social issues: provision of assistance to Member States with particular reference to the International Development Strategy for United Nations development decades as well as other initiatives related to negotiations of a global nature. Special attention will continue to be given to the consideration in an integrated manner of the main factors affecting the development process and of critical issues in international economic relations, particularly issues of commodities, trade, debt, money and finance and energy, and their interrelationships.

(b) Implementation of plans of action adopted by United Nations conferences:

(i) Least developed countries: the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries entrusts the Director-General with responsibility for co-ordinating activities of organizations of the United Nations system for the implementation of the Programme, including preparation and conduct of periodic inter-agency consultations as well as substantive co-ordination of documentation for the General Assembly;

(ii) African economic recovery and development: the Secretary-General has entrusted the Director-General with the co-ordination of system-wide activities for the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (resolution S-13/2, annex). This involves chairmanship of the United Nations Steering Committee on Africa; consultations with Governments and delegations, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations; inter-agency consultations; and preparation of reports for the General Assembly;

(iii) Science and technology for development: the provision of guidance to the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology for Development, particularly with regard to the substantive servicing of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the activities of the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development;

(iv) Advancement of women: co-ordination within the United Nations and the system of activities relating to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, including a review of inter-secretariat arrangements for the co-ordination of administrative, operational and programme activities relating to the integration of women in economic development;

(v) New and renewable sources of energy: provision of guidance to the Special Co-ordinator for the implementation of the Nairobi Programme of Action for the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, whose responsibilities include preparations for and follow-up to sessions of the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy, mobilization of resources, convening of regional and global consultative meetings, organization and conduct of periodic inter-agency meetings, and management of the United Nations Trust Fund for New and Renewable Sources of Energy.

(c) Implementation of General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions: monitoring, promotion, co-ordination of activities and preparation of reports of the Secretary-General in collaboration with the relevant United Nations entities, in the implementation of resolutions adopted by United Nations intergovernmental bodies, to include those relating to economic and technical co-operation among developing countries, disarmament and development, international economic security, assistance to the Palestinian people and political and economic coercion against developing countries.

B. Operational activities

5A.5 Activities involve the provision of guidance and policy orientation for the operational activities for development carried out by the organizations of the United Nations system. Special attention will continue to be devoted during the biennium to enhancing the relevance, impact and coherence of the system's operational activities, improving the effectiveness of the system in the execution of such activities and assisting in the mobilization of resources. Specific tasks to be performed during the biennium include:

(a) Consideration of policy issues relating to operational activities, such as the respective role of funding and executing agencies, the relationship between bilateral and multilateral programmes for the development of developing countries, appropriate modalities for technical co-operation activities and measures to promote the responsiveness of the system to changing needs of developing countries;

(b) Promotion of dialogue and interaction between governing bodies of the United Nations system in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/74, in order to promote consistency of views and action;

(c) Analysis and formulation, in consultation with concerned United Nations bodies and organizations, of policy options on specific administrative issues such as the relationship between administrative costs and programme delivery; programming, implementation and evaluation of operational activities; measures to associate more fully developing countries in the conduct of operational activities through increased recourse to government execution of projects and procurement activities;

(d) Field-level co-ordination: assistance in the designation, in consultation with the organizations of the United Nations system, of the resident co-ordinators of the system's operational activities for development; guidance for the exercise of their functions and for the functioning of relevant arrangements at the country level; follow-up action on resident co-ordinators' annual reports on activities at the field level; promotion of specific measures to enhance greater coherence of action; encouragement of local co-ordination arrangements; and support to resident co-ordinators in carrying out their co-ordinating role, at the request of host Governments;

(e) Substantive analysis and recommendation for action in such areas as drought and desertification, transport and communication, etc., as identified in resolutions relating to operational activities;

(f) Field studies on the functioning of operational activities in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1986/74;

(g) Provision on a regular basis of statistical data on operational activities on a system-wide basis, including the analysis of trends in contributions and expenditures;

(h) Preparation of the following reports:

(i) Annual report of the Director-General on operational activities for development, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/81 of 5 December 1980;

(ii) Report of the Director-General for the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, for submission to the General Assembly in 1989, pursuant to its resolution 35/81.

C. Inter-agency co-ordination

5A.6 The activities described under sections A and B above involve close and continuing interaction with the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as with relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, with a view to promoting complementarity of action in the implementation of the strategies and priorities established by the General Assembly.

5A.7 In this context, the Director-General assists the Secretary-General in discharging his responsibilities as chairman of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). Relevant tasks to be performed during the biennium include:

(a) Specific areas of inter-agency concern: analysis and mobilization of the contributions of the organizations of the system in various multisectoral areas, in response to specific decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Inter-agency machinery:

(i) Harmonization of secretariat inputs and services to ACC and its subsidiary machinery;

(ii) Co-ordination of United Nations representation in and substantive support to the ACC Organizational Committee, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme matters) and the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational activities);

(c) United Nations organizations and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, in the economic and social fields: provision of assistance to the Secretary-General in guiding inter-secretariat relations and co-ordination of the Secretariat's contributions to and representation at meetings of the governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the economic and social fields.

Co-ordination and management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations

A. Overall co-ordination and management of the economic and social sectors

5A.8 Activities involve the provision of support to the Secretary-General in the exercise of his responsibilities for the direction of the economic and social sectors of the Organization and the establishment of overall policy guidelines aimed at improving the coherence and effectiveness of the work of the Secretariat in the economic and social fields. Specific tasks include:

(a) Central intergovernmental bodies:

(i) Provision of guidance and co-ordination of positions taken on behalf of the Secretary-General in the Economic and Social Council and the Second and Third Committees of the General Assembly, including the clearance of documentation in the economic and social fields submitted to them on behalf of the Secretary-General;

(ii) Allocation of responsibilities within the United Nations for the implementation of relevant intergovernmental decisions and provision of guidance and orientation for their effective execution by the Secretariat;

(iii) Provision of support to the General Assembly and to the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary economic and social machinery with a view to enhancing their effectiveness and efficiency, including assistance in co-ordinating the formulation of their draft agendas and programmes of work and measures to rationalize and improve the quality of Secretariat documentation;

(b) Special conferences and international years: co-ordination, when necessary, through steering committees chaired by the Director-General, of preparations within the United Nations for special conferences and international years, and provision of guidance in ensuring effective follow-up of their results within the Organization;

(c) Secretariat structures and intra-secretariat co-ordination:

(i) Review of the economic and social activities of the United Nations with a view to enhancing responsiveness to the needs of Member states;

(ii) Promotion of measures to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of secretariat support services to intergovernmental bodies;

(iii) Development of organizational and other arrangements to promote complementarity and coherence in the work of Secretariat bodies in the economic and social fields;

(iv) Organization, conduct and servicing of periodic meetings of United Nations senior officials in the economic and social fields convened by the Director-General, under his chairmanship, to develop common approaches to major policy and management issues confronting the Organization;

(d) Regional commissions:

(i) Support to the commissions in the promotion and strengthening of interregional, regional and subregional co-operation;

(ii) Organization and chairmanship of the meetings of executive secretaries and provision of guidance in pursuing the range of substantive and institutional issues coming within the purview of these meetings, including relations with headquarters bodies;

(iii) Ensuring appropriate headquarters representation at meetings of the regional commissions;

(e) Joint Inspection Unit: co-ordination of the preparation of the Secretary-General's comments on the Unit's reports in the economic and social fields and promotion of effective follow-up within the Organization of the Unit's recommendations as endorsed by the relevant intergovernmental bodies;

(f) Non-governmental organizations: provision of guidance and orientation for the relations between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations working in the economic and social fields;

B. Planning, programming, budgeting and evaluation

5A.9 Activities involve assisting the Secretary-General in providing guidance and orientation for the translation of intergovernmental directives in the economic and social fields into plans and programmes and for the harmonization of the planning, programming, budgeting and evaluation processes in the Organization, including contributing to secretariat support to the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination. Specific tasks include:

(a) Programme Planning and Budgeting Board: arrangements for and co-ordination of the provision of secretariat support to the Board, chaired by the Secretary-General or, in his absence, by the Director-General. The functions of the Board, as set out in ST/SGB/190, encompass both the United Nations medium-term plan and the biennial programme budget, as well as the overall procedures concerning planning, programming and budgeting within the Organization;

(b) Central Monitoring Unit: provision of assistance, as required, to the Unit, which reports to the Board;

(c) Evaluation: provision of guidance to evaluation exercises in the economic and social fields studies.

Resource requirements (at revised 1987 rates)

General temporary assistance

5A.10 The estimated requirements of \$18,600 under this heading relate to the engagement of temporary General Service staff during peak work-load periods and to replacement of staff on maternity leave or extended sick leave. These requirements are maintained at the level of the revalued resource base.

Consultants

5A.11 The estimated provision of \$112,600 reflects a reduction of 30 per cent from the revalued base. It is necessary because of the particular need for expert advice and specialized assistance for the Director-General in the exercise of his functions, which he intends to restrict to the most important activities of his Office.

Overtime

5A.12 The General Service staff are required to remain on duty well beyond normal working hours owing to the nature of the responsibilities of the Director-General and the functions of his Office, particularly during the period of the General Assembly session. The estimated requirement of \$17,300 is maintained at the level of the revalued resource base.

Temporary posts

5A.13 The requirements under this heading relate to the proposed continuation of two temporary posts, one at the D-1 level and another at the General Service level, which have been authorized by the General Assembly since 1979 in order to provide assistance to the Director-General in the exercise of his responsibilities in the mobilization and co-ordination of the United Nations system in the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries. The continuation of these posts through the current biennium was approved by the Assembly in the context of its resolution 38/195 of 20 December 1983. In view of the continuing nature of the responsibilities entrusted to the Director-General in resolution 40/205 of 17 December 1985, the extension of these two posts is proposed for the biennium 1988-1989.

Other official travel of staff

5A.14 The Director-General is required to travel in a representational capacity on behalf of the Secretary-General, as well as in his own right, and to take part in numerous intergovernmental and inter-secretariat meetings. Because of the nature and functions of the Office, particularly those that entail policy guidance and co-ordination activities, staff at the Professional and higher levels are required to travel extensively to meetings of United Nations bodies, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies. They also participate actively in inter-agency meetings and carry out consultations with secretariats outside New York. The total requirements for travel of \$253,800 include non-recurrent requirements of \$26,000 relating to the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action (see para. 5A.13) and reflect a reduction of 15 per cent in the revalued base.

External printing and binding

5A.15 The estimated provision of \$6,500 reflects a reduction of \$1,200 as recommended by the Publications Board. These requirements relate to the printing of a booklet reviewing operational activities and to printing stationery and supplies for use by the Office of the Director-General.

Rental and maintenance of equipment

5A.16 The amount of \$7,100 reflects an increase of \$1,900 to cover the maintenance contract of the existing word-processing equipment and a new printer, as proposed in paragraph 5A.20 below.

Communications

5A.17 The estimated requirement of \$25,300 under this heading would cover the cost of long-distance telephone calls and does not reflect any growth.

Supplies and materials

5A.18 Subscriptions and standing orders: the Director-General and his staff utilize specialized periodicals and other publications in the performance of their duties. The cost of subscriptions to these publications has not been included in previous programme budgets but has been met from overall savings under the section. It is proposed to regularize this recurrent requirement in the amount of \$8,000 for the biennium 1988-1989.

5A.19 Data-processing supplies: an amount of \$1,000 will be required for diskettes, ribbons, daisy-wheels and the like for the word-processing equipment.

Furniture and equipment

5A.20 Data-processing equipment: a non-recurrent appropriation of \$4,900 is requested for the purchase of a second printer, which is needed to upgrade the word-processing capacity of the office.