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Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Twentieth anniversary and promotion of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

Programme budget implications of draft resolution
[A/C.3/72/L.50/Rev.1](#)

Forty-second report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

I. Introduction

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General ([A/C.5/72/14](#)) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.50/Rev.1](#). During its consideration of the statement, the Advisory Committee met representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information and clarification, concluding with responses received on 14 December 2017.

2. Under the terms of draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.50/Rev.1](#), the General Assembly would, among other things:

(a) Decide to devote a high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly at its seventy-third session, in 2018, within existing resources, to the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, and request the President of the Assembly to conduct consultations with Member States in order to determine the scope and modalities for that meeting;



(b) Request the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive assessment and analysis of progress, achievements and challenges related to the ways in which the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), as well as other relevant United Nations offices, departments and specialized agencies, including at the country level, give and can give due consideration to the Declaration and take into account the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights defenders in their work, and assist States in strengthening the role and security of human rights defenders as called for by the Assembly in its resolutions [62/152](#), [64/163](#), [66/164](#), [68/181](#) and [70/161](#);

(c) Request the Secretary-General to undertake his assessment and analysis in cooperation with the Special Rapporteur and in consultation with States, other relevant special procedures mandate holders, relevant treaty bodies, relevant United Nations offices, departments and specialized agencies, including at the country level, as well as national human rights institutions and civil society, and to present the results of that assessment and analysis in a report to the Assembly at its seventy-third session.

II. Resource requirements

3. The Secretary-General indicates that the request would entail additional resource requirements in the amount of \$146,000 for the following activities:

(a) Under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management: documentation services in the amount of \$32,200, constituting an addition to the workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document (8,500 words) in the six official languages of the United Nations;

(b) Under section 24, Human rights: an amount of \$17,200 to cover the cost of the travel of three high-level international experts to New York to participate in the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly during its seventy-third session;

(c) Under section 24, Human rights: an amount of \$96,600 for one general temporary assistance position at the P-4 level for six months in 2018 to: (i) conduct a comprehensive assessment and analysis of progress and challenges related to the ways by which OHCHR, as well as other relevant United Nations bodies, offices, departments and specialized agencies, could give due consideration to the Declaration; (ii) identify good practices related to the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building; and (iii) incorporate that input into a study with conclusions and recommendations to be presented to the Assembly at its seventy-third session.

4. Upon enquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the tasks of the general temporary assistance staff at the P-4 level would include the comprehensive assessment and related report drafting, as well as organizing the travel of the three high-level international experts. **In the view of the Advisory Committee, one general temporary assistance position at the P-4 level for three months will suffice to perform the required function, supported by existing expert staff within OHCHR and other United Nations entities, as required. Any related operational costs should be adjusted as appropriate.**

5. It is indicated in the statement that no provision has been made in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019 for the implementation of the activities requested in operative paragraphs 14, 16 and 17 of the draft resolution. It is also indicated that it is not possible at present to identify activities within the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget that could be terminated, deferred,

curtailed or modified during the biennium 2018–2019 and that it is therefore necessary that one-time requirements in the amount of \$146,000 be provided through an additional appropriation for the biennium 2018–2019 (A/C.5/72/14, para. 7).

III. Conclusion

6. **Taking into account its recommendations in paragraph 4 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution [A/C.3/72/L.50/Rev.1](#), an additional appropriation in the amount of \$97,700 would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, comprising \$32,200 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and \$65,500 under section 24, Human rights, representing a charge against the contingency fund.**
