



## General Assembly

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/C.3/46/L.35  
21 November 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-sixth session  
THIRD COMMITTEE  
Agenda item 98 (b)

### HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES  
FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS  
AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

#### World Conference on Human Rights

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution  
contained in document A/C.3/46/L.26\*

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance  
with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General  
Assembly

#### A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. By operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.26\*, the General Assembly would take note with appreciation of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session. 1/

2. By operative paragraph 4, the General Assembly would decide, in accordance with the decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee:

1. (a) That the provisional agenda for the World Conference and the documentation related thereto be taken up by the Preparatory Committee at its second session;

(b) That the draft rules of procedure for the World Conference be taken up by the Preparatory Committee at its second session;

(c) That the World Conference be convened at Berlin, for a period of two weeks in 1993;

(d) That the Secretary-General give the conference and the preparatory process thereto, the widest possible publicity and ensure full coordination of public information activities in the area of human rights within the United Nations system;

II. That the Preparatory Committee would meet for three further sessions in Geneva, twice in 1992 and once in 1993, the next session to last two weeks and the two further sessions one to two weeks each if this is agreed to be necessary, and decides also that no more than two meetings take place simultaneously during the session of the Preparatory Committee and that no inter-sessional working group be established;

III. To reiterate its invitation for contributions of extrabudgetary resources to meet the costs of participation of representatives of the least developed countries in the preparatory meetings including regional meetings and the World Conference itself, and to request the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts in this regard;

IV. That, in accordance with the objectives and provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/155, regional meetings be convened for each region that so desires within the institutional framework or with the assistance of the regional commissions and that these meetings be financed as part of the preparatory work for the World Conference, as recommended for consideration by the Commission on Human Rights in paragraph 8 of the annex to its resolution 1991/30;

V. To request the Secretary-General to prepare the following documentation as soon as possible and to report to the next session of the Preparatory Committee on the progress made on:

(1) A limited number of short, analytical and action-oriented studies on issues referred to in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 45/155, Commission on Human Rights resolution 1991/30 and in particular in paragraph 2 of the annex thereto, and also bearing in mind documentation prepared for, as well as statements made at, the first session of the Preparatory Committee;

(2) Reports of meetings that have been organized under the auspices of the United Nations human rights programme pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/155;

(3) A reference guide to all United Nations studies and reports on human rights or related aspects;

(4) An update of the publication United Nations Action in the Field of Human Rights;

(5) An update of the Compilation of International Instruments and the Status of international instruments, including also texts of regional instruments on human rights.

To note further that the Preparatory Committee decided that the experts and consultants employed for this purpose should be selected with due regard to equitable geographical distribution;

VI. To encourage the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, the chairpersons or other designated members of human rights bodies, including the chairpersons of bodies established under international human rights instruments or their designated representatives, as well as special and thematic rapporteurs and the chairpersons or designated members of working groups, to contribute as observers by taking part as appropriate in the work of the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference.

3. By operative paragraph 6, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to encourage initiatives on the national, regional and international levels designed to make the World Conference process a success.

4. By operative paragraphs 7 and 8, the General Assembly would also request the Secretary-General to provide the Preparatory Committee with all necessary assistance and would request the Preparatory Committee to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on progress in the work of the Committee.

#### **B. Relationship of requests to proposed programme of work**

5. The above requests are related to programmes 35 and 38 of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 <sup>2/</sup> and to sections 28 (Human rights) and 31 (Public Information) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. <sup>3/</sup> In paragraph 28.35 of this programme budget, a non-recurrent amount of \$1.5 million is proposed for the Conference preparations.

#### **C. Resource requirements**

6. To undertake the activities identified by the Preparatory Committee, it is proposed to strengthen the Centre for Human Rights and the Department of Public Information.

#### **Staffing**

7. The following additional resources would be required:

(a) To provide overall coordination and management, general temporary assistance would be required equivalent to 1 P-5 level post for 20 work-months;

(b) To assist in the preparation of sessions of the Preparatory Committee and other related working groups and the preparation of their reports, general temporary assistance would be required equivalent to 1 P-4 level post for 20 work-months;

(c) To assist those involved in the coordination and preparation of sessions and reports, the equivalent of 2 General Service level posts would be needed for 20 work-months;

(d) To assist in the preparation of studies, reports and updates of other documents as well as a reference guide, general temporary assistance equivalent to 1 P-4 level and 1 General Service level post for 18 work-months each would be required;

(e) To assist in the liaison work with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and human rights institutions, general temporary assistance equivalent to 1 P-3 for 12 work-months (6 in 1992 and 6 in 1993), would be necessary;

(f) In addition, expertise would also be needed to undertake the requested analytical studies and reports. It is proposed to include a request for 36 work-months of consultants during the preparatory period, at a cost of \$180,000.

8. It is also proposed to provide the conference secretariat with electronic data-processing (EDP) equipment, which would include two lap-top units, three personal computers and three laser printers, related softwares and linkages with other services. The cost for this equipment would be \$25,000.

#### Preparatory meetings

9. Pursuant to operative paragraph 4 II of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would decide that the Preparatory Committee would meet for three further sessions at Geneva, twice in 1992 and once in 1993. The next session in 1992 would be for two weeks while the remaining two sessions would be of one to two weeks' duration each. The Assembly would decide further to recommend that no more than two meetings take place simultaneously during the sessions of the Preparatory Committee and that no inter-sessional working group be established.

10. The conference-servicing requirements for these meetings are estimated at \$2,100,600. A synoptic presentation of the meetings and their requirements is annexed to the present document.

11. The cost for information coverage of the Preparatory Committee meetings in 1992 and 1993 at Geneva would amount to \$15,000.

12. It should be noted that, in connection with paragraph 4 III of the draft resolution and paragraph 7 of Assembly resolution 45/155, the Secretary-General has established a trust fund for the purpose of accepting contributions to meet, inter alia, the cost of participation of representatives of least developed countries in the preparatory meetings and the Conference itself. Contributions are expected in the near future.

#### Regional meetings

13. It is envisaged that there would be four meetings in 1992 at the headquarters of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE). The full conference-servicing requirements are estimated at \$572,400, details of which are provided in the annex to the present document. Of this amount \$452,400 would be accommodated from within sections 23, 24 and 26 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and the remaining amount of \$120,000 from section 32. In addition, a provision of \$20,000 would be required for travel of staff from the Centre for Human Rights to each of the regional meetings.

#### Public information

14. The public information programme for the World Conference would emphasize the purpose and objectives of the World Conference and would aim at enhancing public awareness of major human rights issues, keeping in view the equal importance and indivisibility of all categories of human rights as well as the interrelationship between human rights and development with full respect for the Charter of the United Nations. The information programme would (a) inform on the preparatory activities leading up to the Conference; (b) inform on the key issues of the agenda of the Conference; (c) help to create an awareness of the significance of the Conference and of the United Nations in the field of human rights; (d) highlight some of the basic problems faced in different regions of the world; and (e) continue to publicize existing United Nations declarations and international instruments. It would be targeted mainly to the following audiences worldwide: media especially interested in human rights issues, government officials, intergovernmental organizations, NGOs, educational institutions and secondary school students.

15. In connection with the Preparatory Committee's decision that the Secretary-General give the Conference and its preparation the widest possible publicity and in order to utilize fully the opportunities offered by the convening of the World Conference, several information activities are envisaged to be carried out by the Centre. It is estimated that additional external printing costs as well as staff and expert travel costs would be necessary for the following activities:

(a) A special series of fact sheets devoted to the Conference would include items on the preparatory process, as well as some of the substantive items on the agenda of the Conference;

(b) Two or more special issues of the Bulletin of Human Rights containing articles by international personalities on the objectives and possible outcome of the World Conference;

(c) Assistance in the establishment of national committees for the World Conference would include the distribution of general documentation on human rights and on the Conference itself;

(d) Wider dissemination of the manual on the reporting obligations under the six human rights instruments;

(e) Printing and distribution in an ad hoc format of the Final Proclamation and related documents of the 1968 Teheran Conference;

(f) Development of a teaching manual for human rights education at higher levels to be widely distributed in schools, together with the ABC: Teaching Human Rights;

(g) Awarding of a human rights prize to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights;

(h) Participation in meetings in all regions within the framework of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights to work with specific target groups (such as NGOs, academic and research institutions and parliamentarians) on the aims and objectives of the World Conference.

16. Resources amounting to \$326,800 have already been included in section 28 (Human rights) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 under external printing, for inter alia, Fact Sheets, issues of the Bulletin of Human Rights, the Status of Human Rights International Instruments and Compilation of International Instruments. In addition to these resources, it is recommended to provide the Centre with additional assistance as follows:

(a) An additional amount of \$100,000 for external printing and dissemination costs;

(b) An amount of \$10,000 for a human rights prize;

(c) An amount of \$30,000 for travel of staff and \$20,000 for individuals participating as resource persons in meetings within the framework of the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights.

17. The information programme on the World Conference to be carried out by the Department of Public Information would include information products for dissemination in various formats (print, film, radio and television) as well as other promotional activities. Activities and resources already included in

the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, and additional ones, are detailed below:

Included in proposed programme budget for the biennium <u>1992-1993</u>	Additional <u>request</u>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------

(In thousands of \$US)

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |        |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| (i) Pre-Conference illustrated brochure on the activities of the United Nations in the field of human rights and Conference preparations, in mid-1992, in the six official languages plus German (100,000 copies)                                                                                             | -      | 65 000 |
| (ii) Multi-colour poster for the Conference, in early 1993, in the six official languages with additional copies for overprinting in German (60,000 copies)                                                                                                                                                   | -      | 55 000 |
| (iii) Press information kit on the human rights situation and United Nations efforts to promote and protect human rights, in the first quarter of 1993, in English, French, and Spanish, for a selected list of media organizations and NGOs (12,000 kits)                                                    | 57 000 | 50 000 |
| (iv) Series of background notes, periodically, within the <u>United Nations Focus</u> series (English, French and Spanish), to cover in greater detail the issues before the Conference                                                                                                                       | 10 000 | -      |
| (v) Special supplements on the issues before the Conference and pre-Conference activities in the periodical <u>United Nations Chronicle</u> , which appears in the six official United Nations languages, and regular coverage in the <u>Development Forum</u> , which appears in English, French and Spanish | 5 400  | -      |
| (vi) Special edition of the publication <u>Notes for Speakers</u> , in 1993, in English (10,000 copies), French (5,000 copies) and Spanish (5,000 copies)                                                                                                                                                     | -      | 60 000 |

/...

Included in proposed programme budget for the biennium <u>1992-1993</u>	Additional <u>request</u>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------

(In thousands of \$US)

(vii) Local information programmes by selected centres among the network of 67 United Nations information centres and information services. These would include the organization at the national level of information activities such as seminars, panel discussions, exhibits and the reproduction of information material into local languages, to publicize the Conference. Seed money would be made available to selected information centres	-	40 000
(viii) Reprints of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in the official languages of the United Nations and in German, as well as other international human rights instruments would continue in 1992-1993	35 000	-
(ix) Series of special radio feature documentaries in the six official United Nations languages and other languages would be produced within the <u>Perspective series</u>	-	15 000
(x) One segment of the television programme "UN in Action" would be produced for use on the Cable News Network (CNN) weekly programme "World Report", which is seen in 90 countries. The Department would distribute this item in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish to additional broadcasters worldwide	13 000	-
(xi) Two or more half-hour programmes in the television series "World Chronicle" would include interviews with leading personalities in the field of human rights and the preparations for the World Conference	4 600	-

/...



Included in proposed programme budget for the biennium <u>1992-1993</u>	Additional <u>request</u>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------

(In thousands of \$US)

(xii)	Additional resources to allow for a world-wide distribution of the print and audiovisual products mentioned above	-	50 000
(xiii)	Fellowships would also be provided for journalists from developing countries to attend a two-day pre-Conference Journalists' Encounter and the Conference itself. They would be briefed on the main issues on the agenda. The Encounter would also be open to all journalists accredited to the Conference. The cost for the travel and per diem of the journalists selected from developing countries to attend the Encounter and to cover the Conference would be	25 000	75 000
(xiv)	An inter-agency working group would be established by the Department of Public Information in New York in early 1992 to encourage joint inter-agency as well as individual information activities, within the framework of the Joint United Nations Information Committee, in order to strengthen system-wide information activities on the Conference aimed at targeted audiences. No financial implications are expected to arise from this activity	-	-
Total		<u>150 000</u>	<u>410 000</u>

### The Conference

18. Under the terms of operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.26, the General Assembly would decide that the World Conference on Human Rights be convened at Berlin for a period of two weeks in 1993. General Assembly resolution 40/243 provides that the United Nations bodies may hold sessions away from their established headquarters when a Government issuing an invitation for a session to be held within its territory has agreed to defray, after consultation with the Secretary-General as to their nature and possible extent, the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved. For the purposes of the present statement, the venue of the Conference has been taken to be Geneva, the site of the secretariat of the Conference. Should the General Assembly adopt the proposal to hold the Conference at Berlin, it is understood that all costs over and above those estimated for Geneva would be met by the host country.

19. In addition, the following assumptions are made:

(a) The Conference would meet for 10 days;

(b) It would be preceded by three days of pre-Conference consultations;

(c) There would be three simultaneous meetings in the morning and the afternoon for a total of six meetings daily. The languages of the Conference would be Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. There would be 500 pages of pre-session, 400 pages of in-session, and 150 pages of post-session documentation;

(d) A provision of \$6,000 would be required for overtime;

(e) An amount of \$6,000 would be required for an official reception for the Conference participants;

(f) The cost of information coverage of the Conference itself has been estimated at \$100,000. This figure is based on workload standards for coverage of major conferences.

20. The estimated costs, therefore, relating to the convening of the Conference itself and the pre-Conference consultations would be as follows:

	1992-1993 (In United States dollars)
Conference-servicing requirements	1 376 400
Other costs	<u>112 000</u>
Total	1 488 400

21. To recapitulate, the total requirements for the preparatory activities and the Conference itself would amount to \$6,040,400, as summarized below:

1992-1993  
(In thousands of  
United States dollars)

**A. SECRETARIAT**

General temporary assistance (para. 7)	1 029.0
Consultants (para. 7 (f))	180.0
Travel of participants (para. 16 (c))	20.0
Overtime (para. 19 (d))	6.0
Official travel of staff (paras. 13 and 16 (c))	90.0
External printing (para. 16 (a))	100.0
Hospitality (para. 14 (e))	6.0
Grants (para. 16 (b))	10.0
Acquisition of EDP equipment (para. 8)	25.0

**B. PUBLIC INFORMATION (paras. 11, 17, 19 (f))** 525.0

Subtotal A and B 1 991.0

**C. CONFERENCE SERVICING**

Preparatory committees	2 100.6
Regional meetings (ECLAC, ECA, ESCAP)	452.4
Regional meeting (ECE)	120.0
Pre-conference consultations	49.3

1993 Conference 1 327.1

Subtotal C 4 049.4

Total (A, B and C) 6 040.4

22. By operative paragraph 4 VI, the General Assembly would encourage the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, the chairpersons or other designated members of human rights bodies, including the chairpersons of bodies established under international human rights agreements or their designated representatives, as well as special and thematic rapporteurs and the chairpersons or designated members of working groups, to contribute as observers by taking part as appropriate in the work of the Preparatory Committee and the World Conference, which is not interpreted as implying financing from the United Nations. Should the General Assembly decide otherwise, the travel costs for the above-mentioned persons would amount to \$400,000 and would need to be added to the total estimated cost of the Conference.

#### Conference-servicing costs

23. The estimates of conference-servicing costs of \$3,597,000 for 1992-1993 are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity under section 32 of the proposed programme budget, and that additional resources would be required for temporary assistance for meetings. However, as indicated in paragraph 32.4 of the proposed programme budget, the 1992-1993 level of resources for temporary assistance for meetings was estimated on the basis of previous experience to accommodate not only meetings that are programmed, but also additional meetings. In other words, provision was made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at that time of budget preparation but also for meetings that would be authorized subsequently, provided that the number and distribution of meetings and conferences in the biennium 1992-1993 was consistent with the pattern of meetings in past years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 32 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

#### Other costs

24. In paragraph 28.35 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 it is stated "while it is clear that there would be additional requirements in 1992 and 1993, it is not, however, feasible at this stage to ascertain with any degree of precision the additional requirements that would arise in respect of preparations for the Conference. Requirements, such as activities at the international, regional and national levels and the addition of temporary staff and resources for travel and consultants as well as resources for the Department of Public Information, would be defined after the first session of the Preparatory Committee scheduled for September 1991. It is, therefore, proposed to include a non-recurrent amount of \$1,500,000 which should cover such requirements as mentioned above".

25. The total amount now proposed (\$1,991,000), which includes among other objects of expenditure general temporary assistance equivalent to one P-5, two P-4, one P-3 and three General Service level posts as detailed in paragraph 7, is \$491,000 over the amount (\$1,500,000) included in section 28 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Of the total requirements (\$1,991,000), the amount of \$525,000 relates to public information activities for the Conference.

#### D. Contingency Fund

26. Under the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, a contingency fund is established for each biennium to accommodate additional expenditures derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the proposed programme budget. Also, each statement of programme budget implications should contain alternatives to the financing from the Contingency Fund of the proposed new activities.

27. In paragraph 7 of resolution 45/155, the General Assembly decided that the preparatory process and the Conference itself should be funded through the regular budget of the United Nations without any implications for the programmes provided for under section 23 of the programme budget. Therefore, no activity has been identified for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification under sections 28 and 31 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. Should it not prove possible to meet the costs required from the Contingency Fund, the implementation of activities requested in draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.26 would have to be deferred, as provided for in the guidelines for the use of the Contingency Fund adopted by the Assembly in resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

#### E. Summary

28. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/46/L.26, an additional appropriation of \$491,000 would be required.

#### Notes

1/ A/46/24.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/45/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

3/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/46/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

Annex

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND CONFERENCE-SERVICING REQUIREMENTS

	Location	Date	Duration (working days)	Number of pages			Language	Daily meetings	Conference- servicing costs (\$US)
				Pre-	In- session	Post-			
Preparatory Committee <u>a/</u> (Second session)	Geneva	Spring 1992	10	200	200	70	6	4	792 000
Preparatory Committee (Third session)	Geneva	Fall 1992	10	150	150	70	6	4	672 600
Preparatory Committee (Fourth session)	Geneva	Spring 1993	10	150	100	32	6	4	636 000
Regional meetings									
ECLAC	Santiago	1992	5	100	50	20	3 EFS	2	122 000
ECA	Addis Ababa	1992	5	100	50	20	3 AEF	2	122 400
ESCAP	Bangkok	1992	5	100	50	20	4 CEFR	2	208 000
ECE	Geneva	1992	5	100	50	20	3 EFS	2	120 000
Pre-conference consultations	Geneva <u>b/</u>	1993	3	-	-	10	6	2	49 300
1993 Conference	Geneva <u>b/</u>	1993	10	500	400	150	6	6	1 327 100
Total									4 049 400

a/ The first session of the Preparatory Committee was held at Geneva from 9 to 13 September 1991.

b/ Cost estimates based on Geneva.