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PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION: ENVIRONMENT

International cooperation to mitigate the environmental consequences on Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1

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

1. At its 58th meeting, on 11 December 1991, the Second Committee adopted, by a recorded vote, draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1. A statement of programme budget implications was before the Committee in documents A/C.2/46/L.98 and Add.1.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 1 to 4 of draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

(a) Urgently appeal to all States Members of the United Nations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, scientific bodies and individuals to provide assistance for programmes aimed at the study and mitigation of the environmental deterioration of the region, and for strengthening the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and its role in coordinating the implementation of these programmes;

(b) Call upon the organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, in particular the International Maritime Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, to pursue their efforts to assess and counteract the short-term as well as long-term impact of the environmental deterioration of the region;

(c) Request the Secretary-General, through his personal representative, to render assistance to the members of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment in the formulation and implementation of a coordinated and consolidated programme of action comprising costed project profiles, to help identify all possible resources for the programme of action and, *inter alia*, for strengthening the environmental capacities of the members of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment to surmount the problem, and to allocate, within existing resources, the minimum resources required to enable his personal representative to continue to help coordinate the activities of the United Nations system to that end;

(d) Also request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the resolution.

B. Relationship of requests to the approved programme of work

3. Coordination of activities related to mitigation of the environmental consequences on Kuwait and other countries in the region resulting from the situation between Iraq and Kuwait is not included in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, <sup>1/</sup> nor has a related provision been included under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. <sup>2/</sup>

C. Activities by which the proposed request would be implemented

4. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would request his personal representative to cooperate closely with the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment and with organizations and programmes of the United Nations system principally responsible for work in this area, in particular the International Maritime Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme, in:

(a) Coordinating the related activities of the United Nations system for the consolidated programme of action;

(b) Formulating the consolidated programme of action comprising costed project profiles;

(c) Identifying and mobilizing possible resources for the programme of action;

- (d) Stimulating public awareness;
- (e) Liaising with the national authorities concerned;
- (f) Monitoring the assistance provided by the United Nations system as well as bilaterally;
- (g) Disseminating information, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information;
- (h) Preparing progress reports, including a report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the resolution.

D. Modifications required in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993

5. As indicated in section B, the above-mentioned activities are not programmed and hence no modifications will be required in the proposed programme of work for the biennium 1992-1993.

E. Additional requirements at full cost

6. It is anticipated that, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the personal representative of the Secretary-General would require the assistance of a Professional staff member (at the P-4 level) to assist her in carrying out the activities outlined in section C above, and general temporary assistance for temporary junior supporting staff and consultants, as well as provision for overtime and travel of staff.

7. On a full-cost basis, these additional requirements for 1992 are estimated at \$185,900, as indicated below:

	\$
(a) General temporary assistance	33 000
(b) Consultants	20 000
(c) Overtime	1 500
(d) Temporary posts	78 900
(e) Common staff costs	27 500
(f) Travel of staff	<u>25 000</u>
	185 900

F. Potential for absorption

8. Secretarial support would be provided by the Office of the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna. It is not anticipated that any of the estimated requirements outlined in section E above can be absorbed within the provisions under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, however, since these estimated requirements were already predicated on the assumption that the personal representative of the Secretary-General could draw on the advice and support of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system most concerned with the problems addressed by the draft resolution, notably the United Nations Environment Programme and the International Maritime Organization.

9. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would seek to obtain voluntary contributions to allow him to carry out the tasks enumerated in it. The degree to which he could respond to the requests contained in the draft resolution would, however, depend on his success in obtaining such voluntary contributions.

Summary

10. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.2/46/L.71/Rev.1, no additional appropriations would be required under section 1 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. The extent to which the Secretary-General would be able to respond to the requests contained in that draft resolution, however, would depend upon his success in obtaining voluntary contributions for the related work.

Notes

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

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

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