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COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
FOR DEVELOPMENT  
Fourth session  
Geneva, 17 May 1999  
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

BUDGET AND INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION

Note by the secretariat

1. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1997/62, recommended that at future sessions of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), the report on budget and inter-sessional activities be considered under a separate agenda item. In accordance with Council decision 1997/306, by which it approved the provisional agenda of the fourth session of the CSTD, the report on budget and inter-sessional activities is to be considered under agenda item 5.

#### **The budget of the Commission (1 January 1998-28 February 1999)**

2. Table 1 provides an account of the appropriations and expenditures for CSTD activities under the regular budget and of the income and expenditures for CSTD activities covered by extrabudgetary resources. The report covers the period 1 January 1998 to 28 February 1999. Under the 1998-1999 programme budget of the United Nations, the CSTD has an appropriation of US\$ 352,500, to be used for the travel of members to attend the fourth session as well as for the travel and subsistence allowances for the working groups and panels established to prepare the inputs for the Commission's fourth session. From the regular budget, US\$ 152,500 was set aside to pay for the travel of Commission members to participate in the fourth session, and US\$ 200,000 was allocated for the activities of the working groups and panels. In view of the changes in the membership of the Commission, twice during the inter-sessional period, the Working Group on scientific and technological partnerships and networking for national capacity-building (main theme) met only once. Thus, the cost of the Working Group on the main theme came to only US\$ 48,733. During the reporting period the CSTD held two more meetings, namely, the last meeting of the Working Group on the common vision for the future contribution of science and technology to development, and the panel meeting on biotechnology and its impact on food production, the cost of which came to US\$ 55,520 and US\$ 23,430 respectively. An amount of US\$ 50,000 has been set aside for a first meeting of the Working Group that will be established to prepare the inputs for the Commission's fifth session, leaving a balance of US\$ 22,317. For budgetary purposes all funds will need to be actually spent before the end of 1999.

3. With regard to extrabudgetary resources, the available resources for CSTD activities came to US\$ 183,202.23<sup>1</sup>. As shown in Table I, the amount of US\$ 161,078.23 was the balance from the trust fund that had been set up with contributions from the Government of the Netherlands (Dutch Fund) to cover the 1995-1997 inter-sessional activities. In early 1998, the Chairman of the CSTD requested the Government of the Netherlands to consider the extension of the trust fund in order to complete unfinished work and to use the balance for some new activities, namely, the first meeting of the Working Group on the main theme. The Government of the Netherlands gave its approval in November 1998. An additional US\$ 22,124 was contributed by the Government of Austria.

4. As can be seen from Table I, US\$ 76,187.03 was used for the science, technology and innovation policy reviews (STIP) (Ethiopia and Jamaica), US\$ 21,577.25 for the purchase of copies of the publication "Knowledge Societies: Information Technologies for Sustainable Development" and US\$ 20,000 for the publication of the reports on the coalition of resources for the development of science and technology. All these activities had been approved and planned by the previous Commission. The amount of US\$ 45,500 earmarked for the meeting of the Working Group on the main theme has not been used, as the meeting took place in September 1998 and the approval from the Government of the Netherlands was not communicated to the secretariat until November. The Dutch Fund will be terminated on 30 June 1999 and the use of the balance for other purposes will again require approval from the Government.

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<sup>1</sup> This amount is net of support costs.

5. Finally the amount of US\$ 22,124 has been used for the preparation of the report on the evaluation of best practices in networking.

#### **Inter-sessional activities of the Commission**

May - December 1997

6. Three meetings were held as follow-up to the third session of the CSTD<sup>2</sup>. These are:

- ▶ Expert Group on common vision for the future of science and technology for development, Addis Ababa, 13 - 14 November 1997;
- ▶ Workshop on the coalition of resources for the development of science and technology, Addis Ababa, 17 - 18 November 1997; and
- ▶ Bureau meeting, Addis Ababa, 15 - 16 November 1997.

January 1998 - February 1999

7. The meetings held during the current reporting period are the following:

- ▶ Working Group on partnerships and networking, Sliema, Malta, 28-30 September 1998;
- ▶ Expert Group on common vision, Geneva, 8-10 December 1998;
- ▶ Panel meeting on biotechnology and its impact on development, 21-22 January 1999; and
- ▶ Bureau of CSTD, Sliema, Malta 30 September 1998.

8. Table 2 shows all the meetings held during the fourth inter-sessional period, from May 1997 to the end of February 1999. For each meeting it gives the names of participating Commission members and other participants from the United Nations system, civil society and academia.

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<sup>2</sup> These meetings were charged against the 1995-1997 inter-sessional budget. A report on the revenues/expenditures for this period is contained in document E/CN.16/1997/CRP.3. The cost of the Expert Group on the Common Vision came to US\$ 32,363 and was charged against the regular budget under "Panel meetings", which showed a balance of US\$ 59,144. Funds remaining in the regular budget at the end of 1997 were returned to Headquarters. The cost of the Bureau Meeting and the Workshop on Coalition of Resources came to US\$ 42,625 and was charged against the Dutch Trust Fund under "Bureau meetings", which showed a positive balance of US\$ 54,898. The balance of the Dutch Trust Fund was brought forward and has been used as reported in the present report.

**Table 1**  
SUMMARY OF OVERALL CSTD BUDGET  
1 January 1998-28 February 1999  
(in US\$)

**I REGULAR BUDGET**

ITEM	APPROPRIATION <sup>1</sup>	EXPENDITURE	COMMITTED	PLANNED	BALANCE
<i>l) Travel of participants to the 4th sessions of CSTD</i>	152,500	—	—	152,500	—
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>152,500</b>	—	—	<b>152,500</b>	—
<i>ii) Panel meetings</i>	200,000	—	—	—	—
a. Working group on Partnering and Networking	—	48,733	—	—	—
b. Panel meeting on Vision Panel for the Future	—	55,520	—	—	—
c. Biotechnology Panel	—	23,430	—	—	—
d. Panel related to main theme of fifth session	—	—	—	50,000	—
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>127,683</b>	—	<b>50,000</b>	<b>22,317</b>
<b>Regular budget subtotal</b>	<b>352,500<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>127,683</b>	—	<b>202,500</b>	<b>22,317</b>

**II EXTRA-BUDGETARY RESOURCES**

ITEM	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	COMMITTED	PLANNED	BALANCE
<b>1. DUTCH FUND<sup>2 3 4</sup></b>					
<b>A. Science, technology and innovation policy reviews (STIPs)</b>	<b>75,578.23</b>	<b>76,187.03</b>	—	—	<b>-608.80</b>
1. Consultants fees	—	44,440.00	—	—	—
2. Travel of consultants	—	9,837.65	—	—	—
3. Travel of UNCTAD staff	—	20,472.38	—	—	—
4. Miscellaneous	—	1,437.00	—	—	—
<b>B. Information technology activities</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>893.25</b>	<b>20,684.00</b>	—	<b>-1,577.25</b>
1. Cost of purchase of 1900 copies of ICT publications	—	—	20,684.00	—	—
2. Freight costs for 500 copies purchased by the UN	—	893.25	—	—	—
<b>C. Coalition of resources</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>	—	—	<b>20,000.00</b>	—
<b>D. Main substantive theme</b>	<b>45,500.00</b>	—	—	—	<b>45,500.00</b>
<b>E. Miscellaneous</b>	—	<b>331.71</b>	—	—	<b>-331.71</b>
<b>F. Adjustments</b>	—	<b>-2,249.04</b>	—	—	<b>2,249.04</b>
<b>DUTCH FUND Subtotal</b>	<b>161,078.23</b>	<b>75,162.95</b>	<b>20,684.00</b>	<b>20,000.00</b>	<b>45,231.28</b>
<b>2. AUSTRIAN FUND<sup>2</sup></b>					
<b>Evaluation of networks</b>	<b>22,124.00</b>	<b>18,750.00</b>	—	<b>3,374.00</b>	—
a. Consultants	—	18,750.00	—	—	—
b. Printing of report	—	—	—	3,374.00	—
<b>AUSTRIAN FUND Subtotal</b>	<b>22,124.00</b>	<b>18,750.00</b>	—	<b>3,374.00</b>	—
<b>EXTRA-BUDGETARY Total</b>	<b>183,202.23</b>	<b>93,912.95</b>	<b>20,684.00</b>	<b>23,374.00</b>	<b>45,231.28</b>

<sup>1</sup> Appropriation at 1998 exchange rates.

<sup>2</sup> Net of support costs.

<sup>3</sup> Revised budget as of November 1998.

<sup>4</sup> Total includes balance at 31.12.97 of US\$110,021.78, interest earned in 1998 US\$6,088.03 and the second instalment of US\$44,968.42 (not disbursed as of 28.02.1999).

Annex

Inter-sessional activities of CSTD

Expert Group Meeting on common vision for the future  
contribution of science and technology

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13-14 November 1997

**Agenda**

1. Opening statement
2. Channels for interaction between enterprises, Governments, academia and research bodies, NGOs and other members of civil society, including the role of national S&T councils - formal and informal channels
3. Setting of government priorities with regard to S&T development
4. Support mechanisms for strengthening innovation in agriculture and industry - the issue of effectiveness
5. The role of the CSTD in stimulating closer interaction among partners in development with regard to S&T issues
6. Discussion of possible conclusions and recommendations and further work

**Participants**

*Members:*

Mr. Carlos Aguirre  
Mr. R.A. Boroffice  
Mr. Asrat Bulbula  
Mr. Naswil Idris  
Mr. Luk Van Langenhove  
Prof. Bernd Michael Rode  
Mr. Arnaldo Ventura  
Prof. George Waardenburg

*Experts:*

Prof. Chen Jie  
Mr. Paschal B. Mihyo  
Mr. M. Anandakrishnan  
Mr. Fred Kakaire Nyende

*Secretariat:*

Mr. K. Aning  
Ms. Lynn Mytelka  
Mr. Vladimir Pankov

Workshop on coalition of resources

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 17 - 18 November 1997

**Agenda**

1. Opening statement
2. Coalition of resources for building and operating the transmission infrastructure. Overview and guidelines
3. General discussion
4. Financing the application of ICTs in education
5. General discussion

Working group sessions: Case study presentations

Working Group 1: transmission infrastructure - case studies:  
Bangladesh, Ethiopia

Working Group 2: education - case studies:  
Ghana, India, Indonesia, South Africa

Working Group 3: health - case studies:  
China, Costa Rica, Kenya, Uganda

Plenary sessions:  
Presentation of lessons learned and discussion of guidelines

Final recommendations and guidelines

**Participants**

*Members:*

Mr. A. Bulbula  
Mr. M. Gbeasso  
Mr. W. Hillebrand  
Mr. G. Oldham  
Ms. M. Ranga  
Mr. A. Ventura  
Prof. G. Waardenburg  
Mr. M.M. Zafar

*Experts:*

Mr. B.S. Bhatia  
Mr. F. Bukachi  
Prof. Chen Jie  
Mr. M. Lawrie  
Mr. F.K. Nyende  
Ms. F. Walker

*Other organizations:*

Mr. J.L. Hamel (ECA)  
Ms. N. Halfkin (ECA)  
ITU - Addis Ababa  
Mr. B. David (Bellanet)

*Representation:*

Embassy of Switzerland in Addis Ababa

*Consultants:*

Mr. A. Crede  
Mr. D. Goldshmidt

*Secretariat:*

Mr. K. Aning  
Ms. L. Mytelka  
Mr. T. Tesfachew

Bureau Meeting  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 15 - 16 November 1997

**Agenda**

1. Opening and agenda
2. Minutes of the Bureau meeting in Jamaica
3. Review of events - third session, including membership and position in the United Nations of CSTD
4. Present financial situation
5. Ongoing projects
6. Review of decisions taken at the third session. Preliminary work plan for inter-sessional period 1997-1999
7. Strategy for dissemination of reports of CSTD
8. New projects
9. Future financing of CSTD activities
10. Contact strategies
11. Other business

**Participants**

*Bureau members:*

Prof. G. Waardenburg, Chairperson 1995 - December 1997  
Ms. M. Ranga  
Mr. A. Ventura  
Mr. M. Gbeassor  
Mr. A. Bulbula, Chairperson-elect (January - December 1998)

*Member:*

Mr. W. Hillebrand

*Secretariat:*

Ms. L. Mytelka  
Mr. K. Aning

Working Group on partnerships and networking for  
national capacity-building

Sliema, Malta, 30 September 1998

**Agenda**

1. Opening remarks
2. Introductory statement
3. Panel 1. General overview on partnership
4. Panel 2. Partnerships in the energy sector
5. Partnership on biotechnology
6. Lessons learnt and recommendations to CSTD for further work
7. Conclusions and adoption of the report

**Participants**

*Members:*

Mr. Ali Abaab  
Dr. Kouadio Amani  
Mr. Asrat Bulbula  
Ms. Joseke Bunders  
Dr. Galina Butovskaya  
Mr. Alfred A. Van Kent  
Mr. KongRae Lee  
Dr. Titus Mteleka  
Ms. Rolanda Predescu  
Ing. Justo A. Quintero  
Prof. B. Michael Rode  
Mr. Arnoldo Ventura  
Mr. M.M. Zafar

*Experts:*

Ms. E. Atzler  
Dr. Ludovico Alcorta  
Mr. Neils Busch  
Ms. Joanna Chataway  
Prof. Anton Eberhard  
Mr. N.S. Vonortas

*Other organizations:*

Mr. Dirk Pilari (DESA)  
Prof. B. McA. Sayers (WHO)  
Mr. Omar Bizri (ESCWA)

*Secretariat:*

Ms. Helen Argalias  
Ms. Lynn Mytelka  
Mr. Mongi Hamdi  
Mr. Dieter Koenig



Expert Group Meeting

Common vision for the future contribution of  
science and technology for development

Geneva, 8-10 December 1998

**Agenda**

1. Views on elements of a "Common Vision": Country perspectives
2. Global entitlement to knowledge
3. The changing role of the State in the development of science and technology
4. The role of networking and partnership in a multidisciplinary approach to science and technology
5. Other issues for consideration
6. Towards a common vision

**Participants**

*Members:*

Mr. C. Aguirre  
Dr. G. Butovskaya  
Dr. A. Kouadio  
Mr. T. Kunin  
Mr. KongRae Lee  
Dr. J. Meyer-Stamer  
Mr. C.J. Okulo  
Ms. R. Predescu  
Dr. V. Quevedo Rodríguez  
Prof. B. M. Rode  
Mr. A. Ventura

*Experts:*

Ms. E. Atzler  
Mr. C. M. Correa  
Mr. R.J. Engelhard  
Mr. J. A. Fernández Esteve  
Mr. T. Ganiatsos  
Ms. S. M. Malcom  
Dr. B. Mansourian  
Mr. M. Nagao

*Secretariat:*

Ms. H. Argalias  
Ms. E. Erb-Paniagua  
Ms. G-V. Koch  
Mr. D. Koenig  
Mr. V. Pankov  
Mr. P. Roffe  
Ms. M.T. R. Florez  
Mr. Y. Soubra

Panel Meeting  
Biotechnology and its impact on development  
Geneva, 21-22 January 1999

**Agenda**

1. Opening
2. Species and traits: techniques application and relevance to developing countries
3. Policies and institutional capacity-building
4. Other critical issues in biotechnology
5. Identification of critical areas for further work

**Participants**

*Members:*

Dr. R. Castellanos  
Dr. G. Mencinicopschi  
Dr. G. Perez  
Prof. A. Tsaftaris  
Mr. A. Ventura

*Experts:*

Dr. E. Fontes  
Prof. Z. Hamid  
Ms. K. Stokes

*Other organization:*

Mr. P. Gregory (World Bank)

*Secretariat:*

Ms. H. Argalias  
Mr. M. Hamdi  
Ms. M. Masin  
Mr. D. Koenig  
Mr. J. de Castro

Bureau meeting

Sliema, Malta, 30 September 1998

**Agenda**

1. Opening
2. Reform of the UNCSTD
3. Progress of work
4. Follow-up to resolutions and decision of previous sessions
5. UNCSTD budget and inter-sessional activities
6. Other matters

**Participants**

*Bureau members:*

Mr. A. Bulbula, Chairperson (January - December 1998)  
Ms. R. Predescu  
Prof. B. M. Rode  
Mr. A. Ventura

*Members:*

Mr. KongRae Lee  
Mr. M. M. Zafar

*Secretariat:*

Ms. H. Argalias  
Ms. L. Mytelka