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FIFTH COMMITTEE  
Agenda items 115 and 137

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1988-1989

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CHARTER OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS AND ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE ROLE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.6/42/L.10

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

1. At its 55th meeting, on 23 November 1987, the Sixth Committee adopted without a vote draft resolution A/C.6/42/L.10. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution was before the Committee in document A/C.6/42/L.16.

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2, 7, 9 and 10 of draft resolution A/C.6/42/L.10, the General Assembly would:

(a) Decide that the Special Committee should hold its session for a period of three weeks early in 1988;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to render all assistance to the Special Committee;

(c) Request the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its forty-third session;

(d) Decide to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-third session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

B. Relationship of proposed requests to approved programme of work

2. The activities proposed fall under chapter 3, International Justice and Law, programme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, subprogramme 2, Study of legal questions and elaboration of codification instruments, of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989. <sup>1/</sup> Provision has been made under section 26, Legal activities, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 (A/42/6 (Sect. 26)) for the substantive servicing of the Special Committee as outlined in programme element 2.2, Substantive servicing of meetings, under programme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, which is carried out by the Codification Division in the Office of Legal Affairs.

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. It is assumed that, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.6/42/L.10, the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization would hold a three-week session early in 1988 in New York. The meeting would require the provision of interpretation in the six official languages of the General Assembly. There would be 30 pages (4 documents) of pre-session documentation, 60 pages (15 documents) of in-session documentation and 32 pages (one document) of post-session documentation to be issued in the six official languages of the General Assembly.

D. Additional requirements at full cost

4. The related conference-servicing requirements are estimated on a full-cost basis at \$314,200, broken down as follows:

	\$
I. <u>Pre-session documentation</u>	
(30 pages of 4 documents in A, C, E, F, R, S)	37 100
II. <u>Meeting servicing</u>	
(Interpretation: A, C, E, F, R, S)	151 500
III. <u>In-session documentation</u>	
(60 pages of 15 documents in A, C, E, F, R, S)	75 300

IV. Post-session documentation

(32 pages of 1 document in A, C, E, F, R, S) 37 800

Subtotal 301 700

V. Requirements of the Office of General Services 12 500

Total 314 200

E. Potential for absorption

5. These cost estimates are based on the theoretical assumption that no part of the conference-servicing requirements would be met from within the permanent capacity of the Department of Conference Services and would require additional resources for temporary assistance for meetings. The extent to which the permanent capacity of the Department needs to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources can only be determined in the light of the calendar of conferences to be approved by the General Assembly. However, as indicated in paragraph 29.6 of the proposed programme budget (A/42/6 (Sect. 29)), the 1988-1989 requirements under temporary assistance for meetings have been estimated on the basis of a five-year average of appropriations and actual expenditure for the period 1982-1986, and included in the Secretary-General's initial estimates. In other words, provision has been made in the proposed programme budget not only for meetings known at the 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 next biennium is consistent with the pattern experienced over the past five years. On that basis, it is estimated that no additional cost would be incurred under section 29 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 as a result of the adoption of draft resolution A recommended by the Committee on Conferences. 2/

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/37/6 and Corr. 1).

2/ Ibid., Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 32 (A/42/32).

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