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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: REVISED ESTIMATES UNDER SECTION 28, HUMAN RIGHTS

Report of the Secretary-General

I. BACKGROUND

1. It will be recalled that, starting with the 1986-1987 proposed programme budget, provision has been made in the successive proposed programme budgets for requirements in relation to those future mandates to be approved by the Economic and Social Council upon decisions of the Commission on Human Rights which were considered as "perennials". Perennial activities have been considered to be (a) those of a fact-finding nature relating to a particular country or area dealing with allegations of violations of human rights or investigatory procedures, e.g. special rapporteurs, and (b) those resulting from mandates that are reviewed periodically.

2. In section XI, paragraph 1, of its resolution 44/201 B of 21 December 1989, the General Assembly decided that additional requirements for those new mandates emanating from decisions of the Economic and Social Council, which were outside the scope of the perennial activities included under the section for human rights, were to be treated in accordance with the provisions for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

3. In the context of the review of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was informed that it was not the intention of the Secretariat to continue to produce statements of programme budget implications for perennial activities in the future since provision for such activities was included in the programme budget. This practice was put into effect at the forty-eighth

session of the Commission on Human Rights and at the 1992 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.

4. In the course of this year, however, it has become apparent that the number of special rapporteurs, representatives, experts and working groups dealing with situations of human rights and related mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General has considerably increased and that the scope of the activities of all such procedures has expanded as a result, *inter alia*, of the new climate of international relations. Under these circumstances the question of the adequacy of the aggregate budgetary provision for perennial activities has become an issue of concern for the Centre for Human Rights. The recent mandate of the first special session of the Commission on Human Rights concerning the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia has greatly contributed to this situation.

5. It will be recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 46/118 of 17 December 1991, emphasized that, in reviewing the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, adequate staffing, temporary assistance and other resources should be allocated to the Centre so as to enable it to respond to its increasing workload and to cover its needs in order to carry out all functions assigned to it, including the preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights and the Conference itself.

II. ADDITIONAL RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

6. As mentioned above, the work programme of the Centre for Human Rights has over the past several years been expanding as the result of the new climate of international relations, which has been more receptive of the work of special rapporteurs and other human rights-monitoring mechanisms. This, in turn, has led to a more active role for special rapporteurs and an increased utilization of the existing procedures of monitoring by the designated special rapporteurs. In addition under the so-called 1503 (confidential) procedure three new mandates have been authorized by the Commission on Human Rights.

7. In addition, the operational activities of the Centre, including advisory services and technical assistance, aimed at strengthening national institutions to protect and promote human rights and democratic processes have also greatly increased.

8. In practical terms, this new emphasis on work of the special rapporteurs and on technical cooperation activities, has meant more missions, more related Secretariat activities, including the generation and preparation of more reports, more communications with Governments and the analysis of more printed or audiovisual material than ever before.

9. Furthermore, the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities has requested additional work of the Secretariat, through the appointment of rapporteurs charged with the preparation of studies

and reports, such as extreme poverty, forced eviction, transfer of population, minority conflict resolution, the right to a fair trial, state of emergency, environment, independence of the judiciary and the ownership and control of the cultural property of indigenous peoples. These additional mandates have entailed increased costs for travel of representatives to Geneva to consult on the work related to their mandates.

10. In view of the expansion of the activities of the special rapporteurs and of the resulting increase in the work of the Secretariat, the Secretary-General has redeployed 16 Professional posts (1 P-5, 3 P-4, 10 P-3, 2 P-2) to the Centre for Human Rights from 15 October 1992, for an initial period of six months.

11. It has also become clear that the resources appropriated for this biennium under several objects of expenditure are inadequate. These specific areas include travel of representatives, travel of staff and general temporary assistance. Projected expenditures as of the end of 1992 are expected to exceed approved appropriations for this year by some \$500,000. On that basis, and bearing in mind the recosting exercise to be carried out in the context of the first performance report, it is estimated that additional resources totalling \$760,000 for the entire biennium, i.e., \$380,000 per year, would be needed to meet these increased requirements.

12. The breakdown of this estimate is as follows:

Proposed additional requirements for 1992-1993

	\$
General temporary assistance	160 000
Travel of representatives	500 000
Travel of staff	<u>100 000</u>
Total	<u>760 000</u>

13. Another factor underlying the need for additional resources is the Commission on Human Rights' most recent mandate approved at its first special session held on 13 and 14 August 1992. At that session, the Commission, requested its Chairman to appoint a Special Rapporteur to investigate first-hand the human rights situation in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, in particular within Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to receive relevant and credible information on the human rights situation there from Governments, individuals, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, on a continuing basis, and to avail himself or herself of the assistance of existing mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights.

14. As detailed in the two reports of the Secretary-General (A/47/418 and A/47/666) the Special Rapporteur for the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia undertook two visits to the former

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Yugoslavia, one from 21 to 26 August 1992 and the other from 12 to 22 October 1992. For the first trip he was accompanied by the Chairman of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention and the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions. During the second visit, the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture and the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons accompanied him. In addition, one forensic expert and one medical expert also took part in the mission, along with substantive staff from the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and United Nations interpreters.

15. Costs involved for the activities undertaken by the Special Rapporteur in 1992 are shown below. It is assumed that the same level of activities will be carried out in 1993.

16. In addition to the costs below, it should also be noted that of the 16 posts redeployed by the Secretary-General to the Centre for Human Rights 5 posts (1 P-5, 1 P-4, 3 P-3) were redeployed specifically to assist the Special Rapporteur in carrying out his mission. Other provisions requested for the work of the Special Rapporteur in 1992-1993 are as follows:

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>
General temporary assistance	30 000	
Travel of special rapporteur and others	52 000	100 500
Travel of staff	51 700	94 200
Rental of office space		48 800
Transportation	124 000	310 000
Miscellaneous	10 000	50 000
Acquisition of office automation equipment	<u>19 200</u>	<u> </u>
Total	<u>286 900</u>	<u>603 500</u>

General temporary assistance

17. An amount of \$30,000 is requested to cover the costs involved for four support staff (1 P-3, 1 P-2 and 2 General Service) in 1992.

Travel of representatives

18. An amount of \$52,000 for 1992 and \$100,500 for 1993 is requested. The 1992 amount covers two field missions, which included the Special Rapporteur, and two other representatives, as well as two experts, and the Special Rapporteur's travels to Geneva and New York for an amount of \$44,700. Additional travel is also being undertaken in December amounting to \$7,300. The amount of \$100,500 is proposed for 1993 based on five field missions, seven trips to Geneva and two trips to New York.

Travel of staff

19. An amount of \$51,700 is required for 1992 and an amount of \$94,200 for 1993 for staff members of the Centre for Human Rights to accompany the Special Rapporteur or other representatives in the field missions as outlined above.

Rental of office space

20. An amount of \$48,800 is proposed for 1993. Office space is required to accommodate the Special Rapporteur and staff. The estimate is based on accommodation requirements of 129 square metres at a charge of SwF 1.50 per square metre per day.

Transportation

21. Under this category an amount of \$124,000 is proposed for 1992 and \$310,000 for 1993 for the rental of helicopters in the former Yugoslavia. These amounts are based on a charge of \$62,000 for each mission.

Miscellaneous

22. An amount of \$10,000 is required for 1992, and an amount of \$50,000 would be required for 1993. This figure is based on the standard rate of \$5,000 per mission.

Acquisition of office automation equipment

23. An amount of \$19,200 is required for 1992. This amount would provide for 6 word processors, 2 printers and 1 facsimile machine.

III. SUMMARY OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR 1992-1993

24. In light of the above, the following additional resources are requested under section 28 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>Total</u>
	US\$	US\$	US\$
(a) <u>Increased work programme of</u>			
<u>the Centre for Human Rights</u>			
General temporary assistance	80 000	80 000	160 000
Travel of representatives	250 000	250 000	500 000
Travel of staff	<u>50 000</u>	<u>50 000</u>	<u>100 000</u>
Total	<u>380 000</u>	<u>380 000</u>	<u>760 000</u>

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	<u>1992</u> US\$	<u>1993</u> US\$	<u>Total</u> US\$
(b) <u>Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the territory of former Yugoslavia</u>			
General temporary assistance	30 000		30 000
Travel of representatives	52 000	100 500	152 500
Travel of staff	51 700	94 200	145 900
Rental of office space		48 800	48 800
Transportation	124 000	310 000	434 000
Miscellaneous	10 000	50 000	60 000
Acquisition of office automation equipment	<u>19 200</u>	<u> </u>	<u>19 200</u>
Total	<u>286 900</u>	<u>603 500</u>	<u>890 400</u>
Grand Total	<u>666 900</u>	<u>983 500</u>	<u>1 650 400</u>

IV. CONTINGENCY FUND

25. It will be recalled that, 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 programme budget. Under the same procedure, if additional expenditures are proposed that exceed resources available within the contingency fund, those activities can be implemented only through redeployment of resources from low-priority areas or modifications of projected activities. Otherwise, such additional activities will have to be deferred until a later biennium. A consolidated statement of all programme budget implications and revised estimates will be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of its current session.

26. No activities are proposed for termination, deferral, curtailment or modification in the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, in order to provide additional resources for the work programme of the Centre for Human Rights and for the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia proposed under section 28, Human rights. In the event, therefore, that such resources are not available from the contingency fund, some of these activities yet to be undertaken would have to be postponed, as provided for in the criteria for the use of the contingency fund adopted by the General Assembly in the annex to its resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

V. SUMMARY

27. As indicated above, an additional appropriation of \$1,650,400 would be required under section 28, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 as summarized below.

	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>Total</u>
General temporary assistance	110 000	80 000	190 000
Travel of representatives	302 000	350 500	652 500
Travel of staff	101 700	144 200	245 900
Rental of office space		48 800	48 800
Transportation	124 000	310 000	434 000
Miscellaneous	10 000	50 000	60 000
Acquisition of office automation equipment	<u>19 200</u>	<u> </u>	<u>19 200</u>
Total	<u>656 900</u>	<u>983 500</u>	<u>1 650 400</u>
